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Vol. 21. No. 1.] - 4

[APRIL, 1915.]

Subscription 5/- per annum; Separate Numbers, 1/6 each.



THE

Berks, Bucks & Oxon

Archæological Journal.



Published in connection with the following Societies:—

The Berkshire Archæological Society
The Newbury District Field Club
The Oxford Architectural & Historical Society
The Oxfordshire Archæological Society
The Oxford University Antiquarian Society
The Ladies' Brass-rubbing Society of Oxford.

THE JOURNAL IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

EDITED BY

REV. P. H. DITCHFIELD, M.A., F.S.A.

*Rector of Barkham; Fellow of R. Hist. Soc.; Hon. Sec. of
the Berks Archæological Society.*

AND

JOHN HAUTENVILLE COPE.

Reading:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY CHAS. SLAUGHTER & SON
London: ELLIOT STOCK, 62, Paternoster Row.

TO SUBSCRIBERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

Subscriptions for Vol. XX. ARE NOW DUE.

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The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

P R E F A C E .

WITH this number the Twenty-first Volume of this Journal commences. It has, therefore, attained its majority, and is entitled to a few words of preface in order to express its gratitude to those Subscribers and Contributors who have supported it so liberally during its somewhat lengthy career. Archæological journals do not usually have a very long life, except those which are supported by large and flourishing Societies. They flourish for a time, and then wither away. It is, therefore, a matter of congratulation that the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal has continued to live, to be published regularly every quarter, and to contain matter that has been useful and interesting to antiquaries in the three Counties.

Few of the present generation of readers will remember its origin. Twenty-one years ago I was invited by the late Mr. James Parker, F.G.S., of Oxford, to meet at his house the Secretaries of various Archæological Societies connected with the three Counties at a Conference for the purpose of producing a Journal which would contain the Transactions of these Societies. It was arranged that they should contribute a certain sum every year and receive re-prints of their reports, and I was asked to act as Editor. During the

period that has elapsed some of these Societies have ceased to exist, while others have started their own publications, and the Berks Society is the only one that intermittently carries out its original agreement. Hence the financial burden has for many years fallen upon the Editor, of which he would gladly be relieved.

The Journal finds its way to America, South Africa, Sweden and other countries, and has proved useful in recording finds and discoveries and the researches of distinguished antiquaries. References to its pages are numerous in the Victoria County History of Berkshire. I desire to express my grateful thanks to my co-Editor, Mr. John Hautenville Cope, who for the last three years has very considerably lightened the labour of editing the Journal, and if it can be continued I trust that this pleasant association may be prolonged. Whatever success the Journal has obtained is due to those antiquaries and correspondents who have contributed to its pages, and especially to Mr. Charles E. Keyser, F.S.A., the President of the Society, for his splendid series of illustrated articles on the Architecture of Berkshire Churches, Norman Doorways in Oxfordshire and Bucks, etc. For several years he has generously contributed, at considerable cost, the fine illustrations for which we cannot be too grateful. It would require a long space to record the names of all those ladies and gentlemen to whom the Journal is indebted for valuable contributions, but the following may be especially mentioned: The Rev. J. E. Field, who has been a constant and valued contributor since its commencement; Mr. W. P. Ellis, for his Transcription of the Churchwardens' Accounts of Thame; Mrs. John Hautenville Cope, for her Transcriptions of Parish Registers; Mr. Walter Money, F.S.A., who has done so much for Berkshire Archæology; the Rev. H. Salter; Mr. Mill Stephenson, F.S.A.; the late Mr. W. Cozens; the Rev. A. J. Foster, for his Notes on Buckinghamshire; Mr. W. Hallam, for Notes on Berkshire Bells, etc.; Mr. N. Hone; Sir George Young, Bart.; the Rev. F. T. Wethered; Mr. Ll. Treacher; Lady Verney; Lady Russell; Mr. J. L. Acton Pile, for his Transcription of Feet of Fines; Mr. H. R. Wilton Hall; Canon Oldfield; Mr. H. J. Hewett; Mr. G. F. T. Sherwood; Viscount Dillon; and recently, Captain Kempthorne, R.A.M.C., for his excellent History of Sandhurst, and Miss Sharp, for that of Beenham.

Articles and records of antiquarian discovery will always be most acceptable, and are cordially invited by the Editors. We would remind our readers that the production of the Journal is costly, and

as old subscribers fall away we would ask new ones to come forward, and thus secure the continuance of its somewhat useful mission. As it is the official organ of the Berks Society it has a special claim upon the support of the members. It would add greatly to the interest of the Journal, and lighten the labours of the Editors, if correspondents could be found in all parts of the three Counties who would contribute notes on antiquarian discoveries in their immediate districts and send us articles or extracts from the local press. We would earnestly ask for volunteers.

This "coming-of-age" number is born in a time of especial difficulty amid the sounds of the booming of guns and the cries of the distress of nations. Ere this volume is completed may peace be restored to a distracted world, and the cause for which England is fighting triumph.

P. H. DITCHFIELD, EDITOR.

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM COZENS.—A keen antiquary and an occasional contributor of interesting notes to this Journal passed away in the early morning of Tuesday, February 16th. He belonged to a Berkshire branch of an old yeoman family which was settled some centuries ago in the neighbourhood of Thame in Oxfordshire, and bore the variable name of Cozens or Curzon. William Cozens was born at Little Wittenham in 1839. Having lost his parents at an early age he made his home at Dorchester, and there he became greatly interested in the antiquities of the place, and especially in the coins which were found in large numbers in the fields and gardens. He was brought up to agricultural pursuits, but while still a young man he had a fall from his horse which caused serious injury to one knee, and instead of giving it the needful rest he was aroused by a cry of fire at a farm in the village and spent the night working hard at the fire engine. He became drenched with water and at the same time over-heated by the conflagration, and the injured limb was violently inflamed; but with his characteristic energy he went about with a crutch and would not spare himself, with the result that the other leg gave way, and from that time he lost the use of both, and was compelled for the remainder of his life to move about on a wheel-chair, taking also frequent drives in his pony-carriage. He made his home for several years at Bishop's Court, Dorchester, whence in 1893 he removed to Benson. Chess and his violin were his favourite recreations, and he was a great reader, though in recent years weakened eyesight allowed him to read but little. He had acquired a wide knowledge of history, both ancient and English, and was well informed about the antiquities of the country, and more especially about those of his own neighbourhood. He made a valuable collection of coins, including a series of those of the Roman Emperors, which he greatly prized, and which he has bequeathed to the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford.—J. E. FIELD.



Notes on the Churches of Frilsham, Yattendon, Ashampstead, Hampstead Norreys and Aldworth.

By Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read before the Berkshire Archæological Society, March 25th, 1915).

AS I have stated in previous years, I feel it is a part of my duty as long as I hold the honourable position of President of the Berkshire Archæological Society, to which I have now for so many years been re-elected, to endeavour to familiarise our members with the objects of interest in our own County, and especially to bring under their notice the salient features of the ancient Churches still existing in Berkshire; and accordingly I have selected groups in the different districts, and with the invaluable aid of the lantern, have been able to take our friends round and point out the principal architectural details of the several edifices. By carrying out this scheme once a year, I feel that we can more conscientiously extend our researches into objects outside our County, and encourage the reading of the many interesting papers with which we are favoured on subjects beyond the pale of our local influence. I have, therefore, selected the group of Churches, visited by a few of us in company with the Members of the Newbury and District Field Club last year, nestling among the Berkshire Downs in and near the valley of the Pang, and propose to take you round to Frilsham, Yattendon, Ashampstead, Hampstead Norris and Aldworth, reserving Bucklebury, Stanford Dingley and Bradfield for some future occasion.

We will commence our ramble with Frilsham, about 8 miles from Newbury, remotely situated, and one of the smallest parishes

both in area and population in the County. It is happy in possessing little history, and very meagre information can be obtained as to the former owners of the Manor or benefactors of the Church. This is dedicated to St. Frideswide, and attempts have been made to connect the name of the Parish with that of the Patron Saint of the Church, but in the early documents referring to the place the spelling of the name is substantially the same, so that it seems unlikely that the first syllable can be a contraction of the name of our diocesan Saint.

In Murray's Guide mention is made of a Roman Villa having been discovered at Frilsham, but no particulars are given, and Mr. Walter Money, F.S.A., whose knowledge of the County is unequalled, assures me that no villa has been found here.

Lysons, in the Berkshire Volume of the *Magna Britannia*, devotes seven lines to this Parish, and informs us that in 1409 Sir Hugh Berwick died seised of this Manor, but in 1424 the Haute family became the possessors. Afterwards it came to the Norreys family and by descent to the Berties. We shall hear more about them in connection with the adjoining parishes of Yattendon and Hampstead Norreys. A short description of the Parish and Church is given in the *History and Antiquities of Newbury and its Environs* published in 1839.

The Church (Fig. 1) is picturesquely situated in the centre of the churchyard which is circular and enclosed by an iron fence. Close by is the river Pang with a small Mill adjoining the churchyard, which is overshadowed by the numerous barns and other buildings of the Manor Farm. As we have already stated, the Church is dedicated to St. Frideswide, and is the only Parish Church in the diocese consecrated in honour of the patron Saint of Christchurch Cathedral, Oxford. It is composed of flint, and of simple design, consisting of a modern west tower, nave, chancel and sanctuary. With the exception of the tower, and perhaps the east end of the sanctuary, which may have had an apsidal termination, the structure belongs entirely to the Norman period, some windows having been inserted late in the 15th century. Like many of the other Churches in this district it was restored much too early, and has suffered severely in consequence. This was in 1834, when the former tower of wood was pulled down and the present brick tower and south porch were erected. The dimensions of the Church are given in Murray's Guide as 69 feet in length by $18\frac{1}{2}$ feet in width, but the different parts of the Church vary in their width, the internal

measurement of the nave being 18 feet, of the chancel 13 feet 11 ins., and of the sanctuary 11 feet 7 ins. The arch separating the chancel from the sanctuary is not in the centre of the nave, which shows an increased width more on the south than the north side.

Let us now take up our position in the interior of the chancel (Fig. 2). This, as has been stated, has been divided into two parts as at Avington and other Norman Churches, the eastern possibly, as has been suggested, terminating in an apse, and probably there was a second arch opening from the chancel to the nave, but no trace of this now remains. The east window is of three lights, late perpendicular, and on the north and south of the sanctuary, is a two-light square-headed window with segmental-headed containing arch of the same date. It is probable that these alterations were made at the cost of the Norreys family, when they became owners of the Manor. The Communion table is nicely carved of the Elizabethan period, and there is some Jacobean work incorporated in the pulpit and reading desk. On the south side of the chancel is another three-light segmental-headed perpendicular window, but on the north the original plain Norman window remains. The arch (Fig. 3) dividing the chancel from the sanctuary is wide and low plain semi-circular Norman, and rests on modern abacus and plain jambs with engaged angle shafts. There is no arch remaining between the nave and chancel. The roofs are high pitched with tie beams and king posts, and of the date of the 15th century restoration. On the north of the nave is a plain Norman window (Fig. 4), and on the south a three-light perpendicular one similar to that on the south of the chancel. The interior arches both of the north and south doorways are more lofty than those on the exterior. The west end has been modernised. The font (Fig. 5) has large plain tub-shaped bowl with a band round the base. On the exterior the south doorway (Fig. 6) within a porch has plain semi-circular arch and jambs. On the west jamb is a votive cross, and part of a sundial on that on the east. The door is old with ancient iron hinges. These are semi-circular with dragon's heads at the terminations. Let in to the south wall is a stone (Fig. 7) sculptured head, the upper part cut off, of early date. The north doorway (Fig. 8) is much larger than the south, and seems to have been the principal entrance. It has a plain outer arch supported on a deeply grooved and chamfered abacus, and one cylindrical shaft on each side with a leaf on the east and inverted trefoil on the west capital. There are plain inner jambs with the abacus supporting a segmental-headed lintel and

plain flint tympanum. The perpendicular windows all have the usual form of external label.

A drive of about two miles will bring us to the pretty and picturesque village of Yattendon. It was a place of considerable importance in early times, and was granted the privilege of a market in 1258, which was confirmed in 1319, to John de la Beche, but this has long been discontinued. In Saxon times the Manor belonged to the Crown, and King Alfred granted it by will to his wife. In the History and Antiquities of Newbury and its environs it is stated that William the Conqueror granted it to a De La Beche, whose family were in possession for upwards of three centuries, and one of them received a licence to fortify and embattle the house, but Lysons, in the *Magna Britannia*, states that in the time of Edward I. it was held under the baronial family of Somery by the Braundestons, and afterwards was successively in the families of De La Beche, St. Amand, and Norreys. Sir John Norreys seemed to have married the heiress to the property, and built the Manor House. He also built the Church in or about 1450. The Manor passed from the Norreys family to a younger branch of the Berties, and after other changes is now owned by the representatives of the late Mr. Alfred Waterhouse, R.A. A good deal of ancient pottery has been dug up in the parish, and is preserved at the Manor House. A complete list of Rectors has been drawn up from 1297 to the present time, and is hung up in the Church. Several members of the De La Beche, Norreys, Bertie, and other distinguished families presented to the living.

The Church (Fig. 9), dedicated to St. Peter and Paul, consists of a west tower and low spire, nave with modern south porch, and chancel with organ chamber and vestry on the north side. The Church was restored in 1858, and various alterations and additions were made under the direction and at the cost of Mr. Alfred Waterhouse between 1881 and 1896. The Church (Fig. 10) is built of flint and entirely of one date, a good specimen of the perpendicular style of the middle of the fifteenth century. During the course of the several restorations the tower has been re-built, and a west porch, which is specially commended in the *Ecclesiastical Topography*, has disappeared. An old font has been superseded by a new one, and a good deal of old glass, heads, &c., has ceased to exist. In Ashmole's *History and Antiquities of Berkshire* mention is made of the following, which was existing in his time:—In the east window was a kneeling figure of a knight, his two wives,

sons and daughters, and part of an inscription, "orate pro bono statu Johannis . . . cccc . . . & Regis precat." In the south window was the inscription "orate pro bono statu Johannis Noreys armigeri, qui istam ecclesiam . . . nova edificavit." In the north window was the commencement of another invocation to John, but all this has now disappeared.

The description of the Church (Fig. 11), as it is all in one style, cannot take us long, but we will, as usual, commence our inspection in the interior of the chancel. The east window is of five-lights, and there is one of three-lights on the north, and two similar windows on the south of the chancel. There is no division between the nave and chancel, and the roof is high pitched and open throughout. When the Ecclesiastical Topography was written there was a panelled wooden ceiling to the chancel with boss over the altar. The rood-screen has been restored, the older portions on which, on the occasion of a visit thirty years ago, some traces of colouring were visible, being incorporated with the new work. In the north wall of the nave at the east end are the lower and upper doorways (Fig. 12) of the staircase to the roodloft, the steps being carried up within a projecting turret in the wall. The pulpit is Jacobean (Fig. 13), and there are two bench ends with linen panelling. There are two three-light windows on north and south sides of the nave similar to those in the chancel. The tower arch (Fig. 14) is in the same style, the inner order terminating on brackets. The west window is of two-lights, and has been preserved from the original tower before the re-building in 1896. There are six bells, of which the fifth is a pre-Reformation one, the others dating 1627, 1653, 1656, 1660 and 1756. The earlier bell was, I was told, a Saxon one, but with some difficulty I managed to get up into the belfry and made out the following inscription: "Sancte Nicollas ora pro nobis." The lettering is clear, and above the first letter of each word is a pretty fleur-de-lis pattern. After the inscription is stamped a leopard's head, then a coin with an inscription, which, owing to the position of the bell, I could not decipher, and then a very elaborate cross flory. I never like to demolish a theory, but have no doubt that this bell was given by Sir John Norreys when he re-built the Church, and dates from the reign of Henry VI.

On the north wall of the nave is a large tablet with long inscription to Sir John Norreys, knight, which is set out in full in Lysons' *Magna Britannia* and the *History and Antiquities of Newbury, &c.* This Sir John was the second son of Henry Lord Norreys of Rycot.



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading

Fig. 1. From the North East





Fig. 2. Interior, looking East





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Fig. 3. Interior, looking West





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Fig. 4. Norman Doorway and Window, North Side of Nave



FRILSHAM CHURCH



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Fig. 5. The Norman Font



FRILSHAM CHURCH



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Fig 6. The South Doorway



FRILSHAM CHURCH



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Fig. 7. Sculptured Head, South Wall of Nave

FRILSHAM CHURCH



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Fig. 8. The North Doorway



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Fig. 9. From the South West





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Fig. 10. From the North

YATTENDON CHURCH



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Fig. 11. Interior looking East



YATTENDON CHURCH



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading.

Fig. 12. The Screen and Roodloft Doorways

YATTENDON CHURCH



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading

Fig. 13. Pulpit and Bench Ends



YATTENDON CHURCH



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Fig. 14. Interior, looking West



YATTENDON CHURCH



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Fig. 15. Ancient Scutcheon and Lock on South Door



YATTENDON CHURCH



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Fig. 16. The West Doorway



In the time of Queen Elizabeth he filled many important and confidential offices in France, Ireland, and elsewhere, and died at Yattendon in 1597, aged 68. In some notes furnished to me by Mr. Money it is stated that he was born in 1547, not 1529, and that he did not die at Yattendon. Anthony Wood observes that he was discontented at not having been rewarded according to his worth. The tablet has undergone various vicissitudes. It was restored by Norreys Bertie, Esq., about the year 1755, taken down and laid flat on the Church floor in 1858, and recently, with a new frame, restored to what is believed to be its original situation by Mr. Waterhouse.

The south doorway within a porch has been almost entirely renewed. It is square-headed. The door is old with the original lock, and a very good iron escutcheon above (Fig. 15). The tower was re-built in 1896, but the west doorway was preserved (Fig. 16). It is a good specimen of 15th century work with a label terminating in circles enclosing roses. The two-light window above is also the original one. There are some grotesque corbels, heads, round the upper parapet, which, in the re-building, has been preserved. The windows all have labels, one on the south of the chancel, terminating on circular medallions. The east window has been renewed. The exterior is partly covered with roughcast. On the north side of the chancel adjoining the wall, and surrounded by iron railings, is the tomb of the Rev. Thomas Carte, the editor of Thuanus' History of his own Times, and author of a Life of the great Duke of Ormond, and a General History of England, by which and other pieces he approved himself one of the best writers of his time. He died at Caldecot, near Abingdon, and was buried at Yattendon in a vault on the north side of the chancel in 1754 by G. Bellas, the then Rector. The tomb has been moved westward, when the vestry was built. There is an ancient banded iron chest preserved in the vestry.

In the History and Antiquities of Newbury a full description is given of some "chalk mines" which were accidentally discovered in a field near Yattendon kiln. There were numerous large chambers, and from inscriptions on the walls they were visited or used as late as the year 1700. They were closed up again in 1839. An account is also given of the discovery of the ruins of a Roman villa, with a vast quantity of bricks and tiles, in a chalk pit at Everington in this parish.

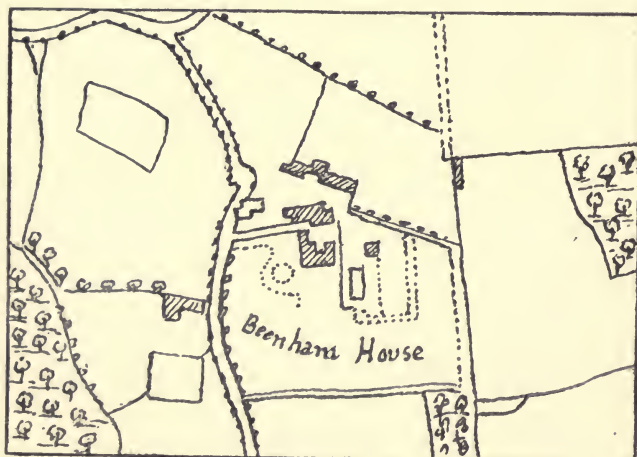
(To be continued.)

Beenham House and Manor.

SECTION II.

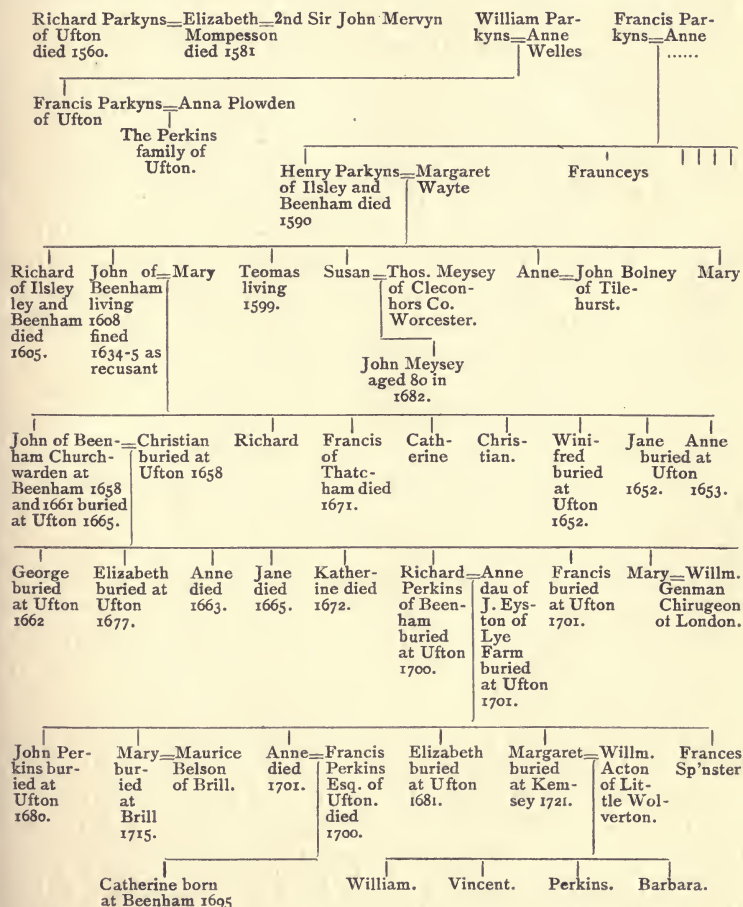
IN the year 1590 the property of a certain Henry Parkyns is described at the time of his death as including *a manor in* Beenham, of which "he was seized in fee and which premises he had held of Reade Stafford Esq. as of his manor of Bradfeldt in free soccage by fealty and an annual rent of 4s." All which means that Reade Stafford was the lord in chief, holding the Manor directly from the Crown, and that he underleased it to Henry Parkyns on feudal conditions of service and for a mere nominal rent, while the tenant or sub-lord became virtually, though not legally, the actual lord of the Manor. This double tenure was, in early times, almost universal. There is no mention whatever in the document above quoted of any past connection of this Manor with the Monastery of Reading; we may therefore conclude that this part of the parish had always lain outside the possessions of the Abbey. It fell into separate hands and has a separate history.

There was probably no house on the Manor granted to Henry Parkyns, and in that case it seems possible that the dwelling in which he and his descendants lived was built by him, and that it is the one shewn in the map of the Enclosure Act (date 1811), a tracing from which is here reproduced. It stood on the site of the present mansion, and in outline it somewhat resembled Ufton Court (date 1571).



Its main frontage was flanked by two wings. The entrance faced to the north, and it was approached by a road between trees, running straight up the hill at its lowest point. It may possibly, like Ufton Court, have been a timbered and gabled mansion. This old house has entirely disappeared.

The ownership of the Manor by Henry Parkyns was earlier than the date above mentioned (1590), which was, in fact, that of his death. In 1571 he entered into some agreement with one Henry Blancharde, a cousin (probably a loan or mortgage), by which he borrowed £120 on the security of the Manor of Beenham, Francis Parkyns, of Ufton, being a party to the transaction.



By the accompanying table of descent it will be seen that Henry Parkyns, sometimes called of Ilsley, where he had lived before coming to Beenham, was first cousin to Francis Parkyns, of Ufton, their fathers having been brothers ; by his wife he was related also to Elizabeth Mompesson, his aunt by her marriage with Richard Parkyns, the same who, by a second marriage, became the wife of Sir John Mervyn, and who bought and rebuilt Ufton Court, leaving it in her will to Francis with a reversion to Henry in case the former failed to carry out her injunction as to the distribution of the Charity, still known at Ufton as the Mervyn Dole. She left various legacies to Henry's wife, Margaret Wayte, her own niece. The will is dated 1581.

Richard, the eldest son of Henry Parkyns, succeeded to his father's inheritance in 1590 ; he lived, however, only for a few years to enjoy it, and died unmarried at the age of 43 in 1605. In his will he styles himself "of Beenam" ; probably he had sold the Ilsley estates, but he had some property apparently in Brimpton, for he makes a small bequest to the poor of that parish. He also leaves small sums to his sister Anne Bolney and her children and to "his lovinge cosyns William Wollascot and Anne his wife." (His mother's sister, Susan Wayte, had married William Wollascot, senior). The Manor and estates in Beenham had evidently been settled by his father on his next brother John.

The Parkyns, Perkyns or Perkins of Beenham (for their name is at this time so spelt indifferently) had, like their cousins at Ufton, remained constant in their adherence to the unreformed faith, and had suffered accordingly from fines and restrictions. Richard himself, during his father's lifetime, while he was living at Ilsley, had been taxed as a Recusant £250 in one year—1591—as a penalty for not having attended his Parish Church during the previous twelve months, and £20 extra because he had not made submission and become conformable as was termed. His brother John, who succeeded him, was also fined as a Recusant ; his name appears in the Recusant rolls for £60 in the years 1634 and 1635.

As late as the year 1741 there still existed a small congregation of Recusants, as they were called, at Beenham, for in a register kept at Woolhampton College there is a list of persons confirmed at Mr. Doughty's house by the Roman Catholic Bishop Fisher, *alias* Chaloner, who also held a confirmation at Ufton Court.

Soon after coming into his estate, John Perkins made over his Manor and farm to Thomas Meysey, a relative, and others in trust

for his own use during his lifetime, and afterwards for the use of Mary his wife and of his heirs male of her body.

His son John succeeded him, the second of his name, but he had not waited till then to give in to the spirit of the times and to claim exemption from the heavy fines exacted from his ancestors, on the score of his having joined the Established Church, and later on, in 1661, his name appears as Churchwarden in the parish books. He was buried at Ufton in 1665. Richard Perkins, his son, was the last of the family at Beenham; he seems to have returned to the old faith. His only son died in his life-time, and shortly afterwards he made a deed of settlement of his landed estates, with a special mention of the Manor of Beenham, leaving them in trust to his relative Francis Plowden for the use of his wife Anne, sister to John Eyston, and to his four daughters as co-heirs. He died in 1700, and is buried by the side of his forefathers in the family chapel in Ufton Parish Church, together with his wife, who survived him only a few months. The inscription on the slab above their graves is as follows:—

Here Lyeth y^e Bodys of
Richard Perkins of Beenham
Esq^{re} who died y^e 18th of July
1700 and Anne his wife
Daughter of John Eyston
Of Lye Farm in y^e County of
Berks Esq^{re} by whom he left
Four daughters. She departed
This life y^e 6th of May in y^e
Yeare 1701.

Requiescant in Pace.

Richard's will, which he made in 1696 after the death of his son, is very touching in its affectionate allusions to his wife. He says:—
"I ordaine my dear and lovinge wife sole Executrix and I bequeath to my said wife all my plate, goodes and household stuffe, corne, cattell and other my personal estate and the sume of £500 as said in my other will (the deed of settlement) during her natural life and having had very lardge experience of her motherly and tender care of my children I leave it to her owne prudence and discretion to give what shall remain in her hands or power at her death to my foure daughters or their children in such shares as to her shall be thought meete, hereby obligeing my daughters to pay a dutiful respect to her having already made a more certain provision for them in my other will."

Then he mentions his younger brother, Francis, who does not seem to have given him satisfaction :—"As to my brother Francis Perkins I do hereby enjoin to my Executrix and my daughters that they take a reasonable care for his convenient diet and lodging either with them or at some fitt and convenient place, also beside the same diett that they pay him the yearly sume of ten pounds during his life . . . the said diett, lodging and Ten pounds per annum to continue soe long as he shall permit and suffer my trustees quietly to hold and enjoy my reall estate . . . without interruption or disturbance of him the said Francis Perkins and no longer and he well knowing my circumstances I hope and desire he will quietly acqui: so therein." He did not long trouble his relatives, for he died and was buried at Ufton the same year as his sister-in-law, 1701.

Of the four daughters who after their mother's death were left co-heirs, Mary, the eldest, married Maurice Belson, Esq., of Brill, in which place she is buried; Margaret married William Acton, of Little Wolverton, and Frances, the youngest, died unmarried.

Anne, the second daughter of Richard Perkins, had married, when she must have been very young, her cousin, Francis Perkins, Esq., of Ufton, who had already a large family by his first wife, Katherine Belson (we find family names constantly recurring in the records of the Roman Catholics, as they always intermarried with their co-religionists). He himself must have been over forty when he brought his young bride from her old home, to which she was to return in less than six months' time a widow, and it was at Beenham that her child, a daughter, was born, four months after the father's death. Her birth is the only entry concerning the family in the Beenham Registers, as their baptisms and marriages were all celebrated in their own private chapels, and, according to their wishes often expressed in their wills, they were always buried with their ancestors in Ufton Parish Church. The entry records that :—"Katherine, daughter of Francis Perkins Esq. and Anne his wife was ~~bapt~~ [scratched out thus] born July 11, 1695." This posthumous daughter was the grandmother of John Jones, of Llanarth, Esq., who, owing to the failure of direct heirs, eventually inherited the Ufton estates.

The four sisters, soon after they came into joint possession, agreed to sell their inheritance and Maurice Belson, acting for them, they parted with the Manor of Beenham to Sir Charles Hopson, and a new page in its history is now turned over.

Sir Charles Hopson, citizen and Sheriff of London, the new owner of Beenham Manor, had been Joiner to Queen Anne and Purveyor of Her Majesty's works in London, also he was Master of the Joiners' Company in 1708. He received his knighthood on taking part in the presentation of a congratulatory address to the Queen concerning the victory of Malplaquet in 1709. He is said to have been employed under Sir Christopher Wren in carrying out the designs of the latter for the woodwork of the newly rebuilt Cathedral of St. Paul's, which had been opened for divine worship in 1675. Like many other retired City merchants, having made his fortune he wished to settle in the country and found a family; accordingly he purchased the Manor and estates of Beenham from the heirs of Richard Perkins in 1703, and he died there on April 6th, 1710, having enjoyed the fruits of his success in life for seven years only. His family in the male line did not outlive the century; a white marble tablet in the belfry of the Church records some of their deaths thus :—

Here lie interred

Sir Charles Hopson Kt. late Sheriff of the City of London
he died April 6th 1710 aged 49.

Also Mr. Thomas Hopson second son of the said Sir Charles
who died Jan. 20 1718 aged 24 years.

Also Mr. George Hopson father of the said Sir Charles
who died July 25th 1719 aged 90 years.

Also Dame Anne Hopson widow and relict of the said Sir Charles
who died June 22nd 1720 aged 53 years.

Also John Hopson Esq. eldest son of the said Sir Charles Kt.
who died June 19th 1718 aged 31 years.

Also Mary Hopson wife of John Hopson Esq.
who died April 22nd 1722 aged 31 years.

Also near the opposite wall lies the body of Charles Hopson, Esq., their eldest son, who died August 10th, 1749, aged 40 years. And of Anne Trevor Zinzan, daughter of Richard Hopson, Esq., who afterwards married Peter Zinzan, M.D., she died September 21st, 1764, aged 42.

On a slab in the belfry floor :—

“ Here lyeth the body of Eliz. wife of Rich^d. Hopson Esq^{re}
only daughter and heiress of Edward Trevor Esq^{re}
eldest son and heir of the Hon^{ble} Sir John Trevor Kt.
late Master of the Rolls

who departed this life June 22nd 1727 in the 31st year of her age

Also the body of the said Rich^d. Hopson Esq^{re} son
of Sir Charles Hopson Kt. who died July 31st 1745
in the 47th year of his age.”

During the tenure of the Hopson family at Beenham the Kennet Navigation works were carried out. Short canals were made to connect the windings of the river and to make it available for barge traffic between Reading and Newbury. These of course cut through the open lands in the valley, and compensation was accordingly paid to such as held rights of common there. The work was completed in 1716, the further extension from Newbury to Bristol, known as the Kennet and Avon Canal, was not finished till 1789.

The grandson of Sir Charles Hopson, also Charles, having died without heirs his sister Mary inherited the estate. It was during the lifetime of this last Charles in 1740, though he was not then living at Beenham House, that Dr. Girle, a London Physician, paid a visit to a small property which he owned in the parish. We owe an account of it to the diaries kept by his daughter, afterwards Mrs. Lybbe Powys, extracts of which have been edited by the Hon. Mrs. Climinson (Longman & Co., Publishers).

It appears to have been Dr. Girle's custom during his summer holidays, with his wife and daughter, to make driving tours in his own carriage with post horses into the country in different directions, stopping at the houses of many country friends on their way, for they seem to have been very well connected people. These diaries give us most interesting pictures of the life of the country gentry of the day. The following is a passage which relates to our subject.

"On Tuesday we set out early for our farm at Beenham, Papa being obliged to go there on business with his tenants, and we, not a little fond of the place, chose to accompany him in this excursion. It was a very agreeable one. Beenham lays about a mile out of the great road to Bath on a pretty steep ascent and near nine from Reading, which nine miles is allow'd to be as fine a ride with regard to the prospects each side as almost anywhere met with. As thro' my journal I intend to mention every seat we pass nigh to, I must not omit that fine old mansion call'd Inglefield House, now Mrs. Brathawit's, and a little farther, on the same side, is Mrs. Zinzan's (Beenham House), a very delightful situation. We called there and had the pleasure of finding them all well. After a short visit we proceeded to the farm which is only three-quarters of a mile distance from their house, but as 'tis a rise the whole way I think our prospect still, if possible, more pleasing; here we spent our day most agreeably in walking over the grounds which command views both near and extensive, in short, every object (so partial am I to Berkshire) except the ocean, that can please the most luxurious fancy

without those very distant landscapes which, in my opinion, always have a flatness and only tire the eye in endeavouring after what perhaps they may never reach. In the evening we returned again to Reading."

The Mrs. Zinzan on whom they called was a grand-daughter of the original Sir Charles Hopson ; she had married a London medical man, and so perhaps naturally was an acquaintance of the Girle family. She was living or staying at the time at Beenham House.

Dr. Girle's property in Beenham consisted of three messuages (farmhouses), three cottages, four gardens and four orchards, in all about 160 acres, besides his common rights of pasture in the open fields of Bucklebury and Ufton, as well as in those of Beenham and Padworth, of the annual rent of £186. He also owned the Rectorial or great tithes of Beenham.

He had purchased the whole in 1729 from a certain Francis Hawes, who was connected with the fraudulent speculation known as the South Sea Company. When the bubble burst in 1720 causing the ruin of thousands of innocent investors, great and universal indignation was felt, and an Act of Parliament was passed authorising the sale of the estates of the Governor, the Directors, the Cashiers and Accountants of the Company for the purpose of raising money in order to make good to some extent the great loss and damage sustained by the victims they had deceived. Almost all the wealthy persons, and very many poor, in the kingdom had become speculators in this fatal scheme. Those concerned in its promotion were declared by the Act to be disabled henceforth from holding any office or place of trust under Government, or from voting or sitting in Parliament.

At the time of Dr. Girle's death in 1761 his farms were let to Mr. Thomas Englefield.

In Dr. Girle's Will, dated 1754, he left to his wife an income from the rents of the great tithes of Beenham as well as those of his farms in the parish, all of which she held till her death in 1801.

She erected a marble tablet to her husband's memory which now hangs on the wall of the tower of the Church. The inscription is :—

"This Monument was erected by Mrs. Girle in memory of her deceased husband John Girle, Esq., late of Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, Surgeon, who having early in life acquired an ample fortune, the just reward of superior eminence and unremitting diligence in his profession, indulged himself in the pleasing prospect of

dedicating the remainder of his days to the noblest purpose of humanity, the relief of the distresses and infirmities of his indigent fellow creatures, an office which the goodness of his heart made him ever undertake with readiness and which the skill of his hand enabled him generally to execute with success. But the pious purpose was broken off by his death which happened July 5th, 1761, in the 59th year of his age. He married the daughter of John Slaney, Esq., of Worcestershire, by whom he left an only daughter, married to Philip Lybbe Powys, Esq., of Hardwicke, Oxon."

It was in the year following Dr. Girle's death that the marriage mentioned on the Church tablet took place. On the death of her mother in 1801 Mrs. Lybbe Powys inherited the great tithes of the Rectory of Beenham and also the land and farms that her father had owned in the parish. In 1804 the whole, including the great tithe, was sold, with her consent and that of her trustee, Mr. John Mount of Wasing, to the Rev. Sir Charles Rich, who had already purchased the Manor of Beenham 1793. He was the younger son of the Rev. Dr. John Bostock, Canon and Vicar of Windsor and Rector of Clewer, and owner of the Hopson estates in Beenham in right of his wife, Mary, grand-daughter and heiress of Sir Charles Hopson. At Dr. Bostock's death in 1786 his eldest son, the Rev. John Bostock, inherited these estates and also succeeded his father as Vicar of Windsor, which office he resigned in 1789. Meanwhile the younger brother, formerly Charles Bostock of Shirley, near Southampton, had married at New Windsor, January 4th, 1783, Mary Frances, daughter and heiress of Lieut.-General Sir Robert Rich, fifth baronet. His title which had been conferred on his ancestor by Charles II. died with him but was revived in the person of his son-in-law, when in consequence of his marriage he took the name of Rich and became the first baronet of the new creation. Thus, after the purchase by Sir Charles Rich of Mrs. Lybbe Powys's property in Beenham, it came to pass that he and his brother John Bostock owned between them the greater part of the Parish.

(To be continued.)

MARKET PLACE, BURFORD.—I own an engraving, evidently taken from a magazine (title not given), shewing the Market Place, Burford, in 1600, in which is seen a small but graceful market cross, standing in front of the old Tolsey. This still remains, converted into a reading room, though the memory of the cross seems to have been lost to the townspeople. When visiting Burford a few months ago my sons were told that not long before, in repairing the road, the workmen came upon a huge stone, which being dug out proved to be the basal stone of the ancient cross, with the four shaft-holes still intact, and were shewn the stone, which was reared up against the wall of the Tolsey.—M. STEVENSON.



Sandhurst, Berks.

By Major G. A. Kempthorne, Royal Army
Medical Corps.

(Continued from page 114, Vol. 20.)

CHAPTER IV.

THE MANOR OF SANDHURST.

1316. Early in the fourteenth century Sandhurst, with the
Feudal rest of Sonning hundred belonged to the Bishop of Salis-
Aids. bury. In 1316 the Bishop contributed one man-at-arms
for the King's service for each of the following :—

Villa de Sonnyng cum Roscombe.

Villa de Erburghfelde.

Villa de Wokingham cum Yeuyndon et Sandhurst.

1397. In the 20th year of Richard II., Thomas, brother and
Feet of heir of William atte Halle of Sandhurst, transferred to
Fines Hugh de Byseley of the County of Gloucester the manor
Berks of "Halle Place in Sandhurst" with 2 messuages, 100
20 Ric. II. acres of land, 20 acres of meadow, 10 acres of wood, and
40/- rent, "to be held of the chief lords of that fee."
Hugh giving Thomas 200 marks of silver, and himself and
his heirs during the latter's lifetime paying 5/- at Easter
and on S. Michael's day.

The Bishops of Salisbury disposed of their Sonning
property in the reign of Elizabeth. Their successors con-
tinued to exercise a paramount right in Sandhurst as chief
lords of the fee, and the right was duly claimed before the
Windsor Forest Enclosure Commissioners in 1807.

A portion of land towards the eastern end of the
parish, though apparently of no great extent, was retained
in the hands of the chief lord for many years after.

Lay With regard to the family of atte Halle. One of their
 Subsidies number paid a subsidy in Sandhurst in the reign of
 Berks 73/5 Edward I., and William atte Hall and John atte Hulle
 Do., 73/6 senior were inhabitants in 1327. In 1354 the name of
 John atte Halle is found in connection with the acknow-
 ledgment of a debt of £10 owed by him to a certain
 Cal. Close John de Fenton. The same family held Halle Place in
 20 Ed. III. Yateley in the 14th century. There is more than one
 "Hall's Farm" in the Blackwater valley at the present
 time. "Hall Grove" and a place called "le hale" are
 mentioned in the Sandhurst surveys.†

Wills Hugh de Byeley's will is preserved at Somerset House
 P.C.C. dated Sept. 21, 1415. He directs "My body to be buried
 2 Laffer- in the churchyard of the church of All Saints of Byeley
 nan. [Glos.]. To the cathedral church of Worcester vi^d. To
 Johanna my wife a moiety of my goods at Byeley, after
 the payment of my debts and legacies. All my lands and
 tenements which John Gerald and William Moleyns had
 by my feoffment in Sandhurst co. Berks to be sold to pay
 my debts, etc. Residue to be disposed for the safety of
 my soul." John Gerald was appointed executor.

1424. In 1424 William Moleyns* of Lechlade, Glos., quit-
 Close claimed to Matilda Merfield, Joan, who was the wife of
 Rolls. Richard Okele, and John Westmer their heirs and
 3 Hvi. assignees all rights . . . in the manor of Sandhurst
 and in all other lands etc. etc. in the vill of Sandhurst
 "which I the said William lately held conjointly with
 William Medford clerk, Richard Whytyngton citizen and
 alderman of London, Thomas Goldhoppe clerk, and
 Robert Kyngton, now deceased, and John Gerald now
 surviving, by the gift and feofment of Hugh de Byeley,
 excepting a water mill with a pond, and a certain field
 called Hullemede.

† In discussing the suffix—*hale* in place names, Prof. Skeat stated that the form *hale* is the dative of the A.S. *halh* the modern *haugh*, meaning a nook or corner, used especially to denote "a flat piece of alluvial land by the side of a river."—See Skeat, "Berkshire Place Names."

* NOTE.—In the 14th century members of this family held the manor of Henley, in the parish of Ash (Surrey), under Chertsey monastery, with certain lands in Fremelsworth (Frimley). Henley Park became a royal manor in 1359, when it was surrendered to Edward II. by a William de Moleyns.—See Manning and Braye, Hist. of Surrey.

1428. In 1428 Matthew Masshebrook and Joan his wife
Feet of transferred a moiety of the manor of Sandhurst to John
Fines, Feriby esq., Robert Woodcock, Thomas Grene, and
Berks. Richard Paulyn, clerk, for 100 marks of silver.
Hil. 6 Hvi.

1431. In 1431 John, son and heir of John Westmere, con-
Close firmed to John Feriby Esq., Robert Wodecok, John
Rolls. Blakeman, and Richard Pawelyn clerk, a moiety of the
10 Hvi. manor of Sandhurst.

The deed, which was executed at Sandhurst, was witnessed by Thomas Foxle, Richard Restwold, Thomas Bullok, William Perkyns, William atte Grove, John Bokeler, and Peter Barbour.

1440. In 1440 John Feriby esq. and Margaret his wife
Close transferred to Richard Combe, Richard Russell, and John
Rolls. Kyngesdowne "our manor of Sandhurst with its appur-
No. 292. tenances . . . with all those lands and tenements in
20 Hvi. the said vill which once belonged to Nicholas atte Hull
and also a certain water mill and close, and a field called
Hulmede, which were Hugh de Byseleys."

Several other manors and lands in Berks, Hants, Wilts and Surrey were transferred at the same time.

1498. In the 14th year of Henry VII. the manor is found in
Kr. Misc. the hands of St. Peter's Monastery at Chertsey, when a
Bks. rental of the estate was made for the monks by Brother
No. 25. John Bury. The names of 21 tenants are mentioned, and
9 messuages and 2 cottages are referred to. The rental
shows that some of the tenants, besides paying their rent,
had to provide labour on the lord's fields at certain times
of the year. For example, William Abbott, who held two
crofts called Hullecroft and a messuage called Cokkisplace,
besides the payment of 3 shillings rent, had to provide 2
days' work in the autumn or 6d. in lieu thereof. William
Stoppesaule, who held a messuage and 12 virgates of land
and a meadow called Risshgrove, had to pay 2d. for a
day's mowing in the autumn; and William atte Grove, who
had a messuage and 7 acres, paid 2d. for "medesilver"
besides 1/1½ rent.

Nicholas Miller held a messuage and a virgate of land called Hullerslond, identical perhaps with Hulmede already mentioned.

John Cuishulle held with other lands a place (placiam) called "le hale."

1510. In 1510, the second year of Henry VIII., the manor
 Misc. was leased by the Abbot of Chertsey to William Rogers
 Bks. LR. for a term of 40 years. A person of this name was buried
 Vol. 187. at Yateley in 1513.

In the year 1539 the abbey shared the fate of the other
 great monasteries, and its possessions were surrendered to
 the crown. In 1543 a lease of Sandhurst manor was
 1543. granted to William Braconbury, gentleman, for a term of
 do. 21 years.

In 1544 a grant in fee of "the manor of Sandhurst
 1544. Surrey in the tenure of Richard Stafferton, which belonged
 Pat. p 19 to Chertsey monastery," was made, together with other
 m 28. manors, to a number of persons, all London tradesmen,
 "the grant to be void if the purchase money is repaid
 within the year."

In 1546 William Boxe grocer of London and his wife
 1546. Anne appear to have got possession of the manor. In
 Letters September of this year they were allowed to exchange it,
 and with that of Roxton Beds, for lands, lately in the posses-
 Papers. sion of Abingdon monastery, in Mercham and Frilford.
 Hen. viii. vol. xxi, ii.

In the 3rd year of Edward VI. a rental of the manor
 1549. was made by Roger Amyce, described as surveyor of the
 Misc. King's lands. At this time William Braconbury was still
 Books the lessee. From this document, a translation of which
 LR will be found in the appendix, it is seen that the total
 vol. 187. number of houses was the same as in 1498, with the
 addition of a messuage at Moor Lane End and 2 acres,
 which was held under the manor of Sonning. The site of
 the manor (scitum manerii) was occupied by Thomas Cox ;
 and, judging from the names of the demesne fields, must
 have been near the present Sandhurst Lodge.

In 1561 Queen Elizabeth granted the manor in fee to
 1561. "our beloved counsellor Sir John Mason" for the sum of
 Pat. 4 £248. The property was then stated to be of the clear
 Eliz. p. 5 yearly value of £8. The advowson of the rectory was
 (980). specially excluded from the grant, and the Queen also
 reserved for herself and her successors "all the bells and
 all the lead of in and upon the premises except the lead of
 the gutters and windows." Mention is also made of 32/-
 issuing from the premises and payable to the Bishop of
 Salisbury.

Sir John Mason was a person of importance during the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth, and a most typical product of that age. The son of humble parents, he was born at Abingdon and bred as a servitor at All Souls, Oxford. Here he was fortunate enough on one occasion to attract the notice of King Henry VIII. by a Latin oration. The King, according to Fuller, gave orders on the spot "for his education beyond the seas as confident that he would prove an able Minister of State." Under Edward VI. he became Clerk to the Privy Council, Master of Requests, and Dean of Winchester. He was a layman and held the Deanery 1549—1553. At the King's death he made the one mistake of his life by allowing himself to be involved in the proclamation of Lady Jane Grey. Realising, however, the way the tide was setting he saved himself by an early submission to Mary. He was Treasurer to the Household under Queen Elizabeth, Chancellor of Oxford, Ambassador at Paris and Brussels, and for many years had an important voice in the foreign policy of the nation. His death occurred in 1566, when he was succeeded by his adopted son Anthony Weekes, a grandson of his mother by a second marriage. He is stated by Camden to have been "vir gracilis atque eruditus," "which I like much better," adds Fuller, "than that which follows," namely "ecclesiasticorum beneficiorum incubator maximus."*

1566.

Anthony Weekes, who took the name of Mason, succeeded also to the Hampshire manors of Winchfield and Hartley Wintney, at the latter of which places he resided.

Chanc.
Proc. Eliz.
vol. ii.

R.E. 8.50.

Do. P.p.
4.50.

The Sandhurst property was subsequently sold to Richard Geale, when Anthony Weekes *alias* Mason and his son John became involved in Chancery proceedings.

This Richard Geale was buried beneath the altar of the old church and a brass was set up to his memory, which is now in the south chapel. On it is depicted Richard Geale himself, his wife Elizabeth, and their four sons and five daughters. The inscription states that "The saide Richard deceased the 18th September anno Dni 1608."¹ His wife died ten years later.

* For a full account of Sir John Mason see Dict. Nat. Biog.

¹ According to the register he died September 18, 1607.

Misc. In a survey of 1613 are found the names of Richard
Books and John Geale, presumably two of his sons. The former,
L.R. 199. who was Lord of the Manor, had two houses, the latter
three, and they held Harriesmoor in common. In this
year Richard married Eleonor Sellon, and by her had issue
Elizabeth [1616], Eleonor [1618], John [1620], and Sarah
[1622]. John, whose wife was named Elizabeth, had issue
Elizabeth [1612], Nicholas [1615], John [1617], Richard
[1619], and Joan [1622]. John Geale the elder was
buried in 1658, surviving his wife by five years.

Parish In the reign of Charles II. Richard Geale,
Books probably John's son, was in occupation of the manor
1674. lands, and was summoned at the Herald's Visitation of
1665-6 but did not appear. This was probably the
Richard Geale who was buried in 1679. In 1695 Richard
Geale with 18 other "gentlemen" was appointed a
Regarder of Windsor Forest.

The Geales were people of importance in Yateley,
Sandhurst, and Eversley during the 17th century, and
increased and multiplied exceedingly. One of the Yateley
branch had engaged in trade in London, and was cup
maker to Charles I.* During the 18th century the for-
tunes of the Sandhurst family seem to have declined
though they continued to hold land in the parish up to
1739.

1738. In the eighteenth century the manor belonged to the
Parish Williamson family. In 1738 "Cornal Williams" as lord
Books of the manor took part in repairing the churchyard rails.
"Church- In 1752 an indenture was made between Elizabeth Wil-
yard lamson, widow of Adam Williamson Esq., and Elizabeth
Rayles." Caroline, spinster, daughter and only child of Adam and
1752. Elizabeth, and devisee of Adam; and Edward Inge and
C.P. Enr. William Baldwin; for the bairing of estates tail. "The
Trin. said Elizabeth and Elizabeth Caroline granting to Inge
25 & 26 . . . the manor of Sandhurst . . . to hold for the
Geo. II. suffering of a recovery in which Elizabeth Caroline shall be
m. 42.† vouchee. To use of the said Elizabeth for life, then to
use of Elizabeth Caroline her heirs and assignees, except a

* Stookes. History of Crondall and Yateley.

† For this reference the author is indebted to the Editor of the Victoria County History of Berks.

tenement called Hall Place and several closes in the parish of Finchampstead which is settled to the use of Elizabeth Caroline." The property in the recovery deed is described as "the manor of Sandhurst with the appurtenances and 5 messuages, 1 toft, 8 gardens, 140 acres of land, 50 acres of meadow, 50 acres of pasture, 10 acres of wood, 50 acres of moor, £4 5s. rent, and common of pasture and turbary in Wokingham, Binfield, Sandhurst, and Finchampstead."

Re-
coveries.
Trin.
25 & 26.
Geo. II.

It seems fairly reasonable to assume that Elizabeth Caroline Williamson married Daniel Fox, esq., of Binfield; and that she was the same Elizabeth Caroline Fox who, as "Reading and Mercury," "lady of the manor of Sandhurst," inserted a notice about the sale of turves in the "Reading Mercury" in 1786.

In 1787 Adam Williamson was lord of the manor, and signed a similar notice, dated from London.

In 1789 Richard Heaviside, Esq., of Parsons Green, Fulham, purchased from Colonel Adam Williamson of The Terrace, Spring Gardens, "a cottage and 2 acres of land together with the manor or lordship of Sandhurst with the rights, members, liberties, and appurtenances thereof" for £1,850.

1789.
Private
deed.

During all this period there were constant disputes between the lord of the manor and the tenants over their respective rights of common. The former, who did not reside in the parish, looked to making a considerable profit on the sale of turves cut on the waste. In May of each year, at a time previously advertised, a large sale took place on Shelborne Hills, and the "Sandhurst tods," as they were called, seem to have found a ready market in the neighbourhood.

The freeholders denied the right of the lord to sell the turves, and complained that he did not leave enough herbage for the maintenance of their flocks.

In 1772 Daniel Fox, esq., of Binfield, described as the lord of the manor of Sandhurst, tried to get his claim ratified by Act of Parliament. In March of the same year the freeholders presented a petition at the Bar of the House in which they pointed out that they were entitled to certain rights of cutting heath, turf, peat and fern on the waste. That Mr. Fox and his predecessors had already cut so much peat and turf that there was not enough

herbage for their cattle, and that if the act was passed things would become even worse. The King's deer, deprived of their browsing ground, would invade their inclosures and destroy their crops. Mr. Fox had no legal right to sell his turf at all.

B.M.
Library
215.1.2
(133).

To these objections a printed answer was circulated, in which it was stated that the manor contained 4,700 acres, of which 1,700 were inclosed land of a yearly value of £600, the rest consisted of heath with 70 acres of peat bog. The number of tenants entitled to common of turbay for fuel was under 30, and there never had been any right of cutting peat, heath, or fern. The lords of the manor had from time immemorial exercised these rights to their own emolument and the advantage of the neighbourhood, which was ill supplied with fuel.

The disputes continued during Mr. Heaviside's time, and frequent law suits took place, decided almost invariably in favour of the lord of the manor; but on one occasion the freeholders were successful, and Mr. Heaviside had to insert a notice in the paper promising to indemnify his workmen, and those who bought from his agent, against any expense they might be put to, presumably in the case of legal proceedings being taken against them.

At the Assizes held at Reading in July of 1798, John Rackstrow, one of the farmers, obtained an injunction against Messrs. Thrift and Minchin, employed by Mr. Heaviside, from cutting and carrying away for sale "the surface of certain grassy parts of the common, called tods or sods, to the detriment of the tenants having common of pasture." It being proved that they had carried off several waggon loads.

It was a great triumph for the tenants; and a notice appeared in the next week's "Mercury" declaring their intention to proceed against any person found cutting herbage on the waste. Mr. Heaviside, however, at once appealed, and the decision was reversed by the King's Bench. A similar action next year also failed.

After incendiary fires and other unpleasantness, the question was finally settled by the Forest Enclosure Act of 1813. This time Mr. Heaviside became involved in legal

proceedings with the crown. He contended that Sandhurst Manor was exempt from the law of the Forest, and that therefore the King could claim no allotment there in respect of his forestal rights. This he failed to prove to the satisfaction of the court, though he established a right of cutting and selling turves on the waste, in consideration of which he was granted a special allotment of a hundred and fifty acres out of the King's share.

1807, Reports of Claims made before the Windsor Forest Commissioners. Mention has already been made of a portion of land in the parish which excluded from the rest of the manor. At the time of the Windsor Forest Commission Mr. Heavyside claimed "the fee simple of the said manor extending over the whole parish of Sandhurst." There was, however, a second claim, made by Mr. W. Blackall Simonds, to manorial rights over a portion of the parish. No proofs were advanced to this claim, and it was apparently not gone into. In 1817 this gentleman was holding what is now called College Farm, adjoining the R.M.C. property, and the adjacent fields. To the west of his property were a few acres belonging to Mr. Rackstrow, of Rackstrow's Farm, and then Mr. Charles Simonds' holding round Sandhurst Farm. There must have been a tradition in the Simonds' family that either all or part of their land was not subject to the lord of the larger manor, and certain facts seem to bear this out.

1515. In the reign of Henry VIII. Sir William Sandys,* who
 Chanc. then held Mr. Charles Simonds' property above men-
 Misc. tioned, was said to be seized of two mesuages, called
 Rolls "Buckhurst" and "Crishylls," "in dominico suo ut de
 13/14. feodo." In the second year of the same reign his Sand-
 1510. hurst estate was referred to as "The manor of Buckhurst
 Close in Sandhurst," and in the third year of Edward VI. a
 2 Hvi. mesuage at Moor Lane End, which was apparently on the
 No. 378. same property, though not then held by the Sandys family,
 was directly under the manor of Sonning.

It would seem therefore that there were for a certain time two mesne manors in Sandhurst, both subject to the paramount right of the lords of Sonning.

* Afterwards known as Lord Sandys of the Vyne. His creation as a Baron is dated April 27th, 1523.

1810. Mention must also be made of the so-called "manor Report of the Sandhurst which comprises the Royal Military College of the estate." The estate in question is so referred to in a Blue Book of 1810. No evidence has been found to support Commissioners of the view that this was ever a separate manor. Some Military account of the history of the government property is Inquiry. given in another chapter.

The Washington Arms and Pedigree.

By Mrs. Suckling.

FROM a long article recently published in America, it would appear that doubts have arisen as to the accuracy of the pedigree supplied to General Washington by the Heralds' College, which doubts "are based upon investigations (not yet completed) by the Rev. Dr. Solloway, Vicar of Selby, Lancashire (?), England ; that our father, George, did not, after all, derive from the Washingtons of Sulgrave, but was probably a descendant of one of two brothers, who went to Virginia from Lancashire." What is known about Washington's forebears is, that they were John and Laurence Washington, who came from England in 1657. When Washington became President and sent to Sir Isaac Herd, Garter King-at-Arms, for his pedigree, it was ascertained that Laurence Washington, who died near Sulgrave in 1616, had two sons John and Laurence, who were accordingly assigned to the President, as belonging to him. It is said that he never was satisfied with this pedigree, but respected a tradition that his family came from farther North. Now comes forward the Rev. Dr. Solloway, "who has noted an heraldic window in the Abbey Church, which shows the Washington Arms, and which has led him to reconsider this matter of the pedigree. Laurence Washington the elder, who died in 1616 (Dr. Solloway has ascertained), was married in 1590 and had seventeen children. Of these, John and Laurence (whom Herd supposed to have been the founder of the American family) were the fourth and fifth members ; so that in 1657, about the time of their emigration, they would be some sixty years old." The writer goes on to suggest "that Herd was mistaken, and that this John and Laurence never left England at all, and that the John and Laurence who did go out to Virginia were not of the Northamptonshire branch of the family. And the truth is that John stayed in England to become Sir John Washing-

ton, and that his brother Laurence settled down at Purley in Oxfordshire."

Burke, in his "Armoury," under Washington gives the Arms "Argent, two bars gules, in chief three mullets of the second" to families of that name in "Lancashire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire and Kent." And Foster, in his "Alumni Oxoniensis," mentions four Washingtons who were Oxford graduates, and were "Armiger" from the County of York in the seventeenth century. Also, the Visitation of that County for 1563, shews Tempest "impaling Washington"—for Sir Richard Tempest married Elenora daughter and heir of William Washington. Therefore if the American writer is referring to Selby in Yorkshire, there should be no lack of armorial memorials to this family in that County. Moreover, Foster says that Laurence, son of Laurence Washington of Sulgrave, Northants (gent), matriculated at Brasenose College, Oxford, at the age of 19, on the 2nd of November, 1621; and that he was Rector of Purleigh in Essex from 1633 until ejected in 1643" (Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy*). He also gives "William Washington, gent," as "Son of Robert of Sulgrave, gent," and says that he matriculated at Oriel College on the 6th of December, 1588, aged 11, together with his brother Christopher Washington, who was aged 15. Burke's "Armoury" has it that, "this family derived from Robert Washington,* second son of John Washington of Whitfield; Robert's eldest son, John, who was of Wharton, was father, by Margaret his wife, daughter of Robert Kitson, Esq., of Wharton, of Laurence Washington of Northampton, Esq., and of Gray's Inn; who had a grant of land at Sulgrave in the 30th of King Henry the VIII. His great grandson John Washington, younger brother of Sir William Washington of Packington, county Leicester, emigrated to America about 1657, and was father of Laurence Washington of Bridges Creek, county Virginia, North America; whose son, Augustine, was father of George Washington the patriot, who was born in February, 1732."

The Margaret Kitson, aforesaid, was sister of Sir Thomas Kitson of Hengrave in Suffolk (see Visitation, 1561), who left Margaret, daughter and sole heir. John Dovington of Yorks, was father of Katherine Kitson, wife of Sir John Spencer of Wormleighton in Warwick, whose grandson, Sir Robert Spencer, was then created Baron Spencer of Wormleighton in 1603. In the church of Great Brington, Northants, is a stone covering the remains of "Elizabeth Washington. widow, who changed this life for

* Of Warton, co. Lanc.—J. H. C.

imortalitie ye 19th of March, 1622. As also ye body of Robert Washington, gent, her late husband, second son of Robert Washington of Solgrave in ye county of North, Esq., who departed this life ye 10 of March, 1622, after they lived lovingly together in this parish." Also a stone with the Arms of Washington impaling Butler for Laurence Washington ("son and heir of Robert of Sulgrave") and Margaret Butler his wife. Foster gives the entry, at Magdalen College in 1560-7, of "Laurence, son of Laurence Washington. Mayor of Northampton 1534 and 1545," and says he was "B.A. in 1567, Barrister-at-Law and M.P. for Maidstone 1604-11, died in London 21 December, 1619, aged 73, and was buried in Maidstone Church."

It would indeed be satisfactory if the alleged inquiry results in anything so conclusive and so interesting as the pedigree of the celebrated Governor, John Winthrop, of Massachussets; printed by the late Dr. Muskett in his *Suffolk Manorial Families* (1900) under "Winthrop of Grouton." Also, if anything definite is discovered as to the oft-told tale that the Washington Arms formed the basis of the Federal flag, and that their crest, of an eagle, with wings endorsed, was the parent bird of the American Eagle. Nor should this be surprising under the circumstances, for, at that time in England, we read that "the facings of Regiments, raised by private individuals or by public subscription, were often taken from the family arms of their colonels, and the badges from his crest." Moreover, that the story has adherents in America is evident from the following by a well-known writer: "It is not a little curious that the poor, worn out rag of feudalism, as many would count it, should have expanded into the bright and ample banner that now waves on every sea." But if this was true the General never once alluded to it in his correspondence, and even went so far as to refuse the dedication of a book on Heraldry from his aversion to genealogies. The maker of the flag is said to have been a Mrs. Ross, an upholstress in Philadelphia. The accepted story is, that after the decision of Congress, that in future there should be a single Federal flag, General Washington, together with certain members of the Committee, repaired to Archer Street carrying a rough sketch of the intended design, and that at Mrs. Ross' suggestion Washington re-drew it on the spot, with the alterations deemed expedient, and shortly afterwards she produced the famous "Stars and bars," alluded to by Whittier in his "Barbara Frietchiet":—

"Forty flags with their silver stars,

"Forty flags with their crimson bars."



Notes and Queries

RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.

THE Editors express the earnest hope that a larger number of Correspondents will avail themselves of these pages, and thus help those responsible for the publication of this Journal to extend its usefulness. There are several Queries—inserted in the Journals for 1914—still remaining unanswered. It is hoped that some readers may solve them.

Notes.

MARRIAGES, CHANCE NOTES OF NORTH BERKS. — The following may interest some genealogist:—Marriages, chance notes of North Berks.—Wantage: Christopher Meeres, 1581; John Iremonger, 1591; a family named Arnold, 16th and 17th century; Edward Jennever, 1619. Burghfield; Harry Austen Deane, 1738; *Peter Norris, papermaker, 1762; Richard Coldham, gent., 1614. West Illsley: Thomas Calcott, gent., 1614; Robert Aldworth, of Abingdon, 1680. Yattendon; Richard Broughton, 1761; Thomas Blagrove, of Wantage, 1729; Mr. Edward Stafford, 1678. Mortimer: Sir Christopher Musgrave, Bart., 1711; John Bulley, 1725; James Morgan, Esqre, 1737; Thomas Pottinger, 1762. Englefield; John Englefield, 1590; Margaret Lambourne, 1631; Revd. William Bond, 1703. Pangbourne: Francis Williscote, gent., 1566; Richard Montague, 1579. Streatley: Robert Davis, of London, citizen, 1682; Ed. Sawyer, of Didcote, 1724.

COIN OF NERO AT WALLINGFORD.—An interesting addition has lately been made to the number of Roman coins found at Wallingford. Mr. Shepherd, who occupies a house in St. John's Road outside the south-west angle of the ancient fortifications, lately unearthed in his garden a brass Dupondius, of which the legend on the obverse is partly illegible, but the words NERO CÆSAR AUG. P.M. are very clear. The reverse has the letters S.C. (*senatus consulto*) with the usual figure of Victory between them. Coins of Nero were among the large number of those of various Emperors, from Augustus onwards, found in and immediately round Wallingford (excluding Dorchester), which were collected from 1862 to 1880 by Mr. W. R. Davies, as appears from the list given in Hedges' *History of Wallingford* (I, 141).—J. E. FIELD.

Replies.

WOOLFORD FAMILY,—The Antrums were millers at Mapledurham and, I believe, also at Whitechurch (Oxon). Richard Buckingham, son of Thos. Buckingham, was Vicar of Kingsclere before 1668, and married Sarah.—E. E. C.

* He worked Sheffield paper mill, Berks.

Queries.

WOOLFORD FAMILY OF PANGBOURNE.—Who was Antrum Woolford, who presented, I believe, the clock to Pangbourne Church? Timothy Antrum and William Woolford occur as witnesses to wills of the Buckeridge family about 1708. One of the oldest grave stones there records the death of William Woolford, January 9th, 1714, aged 69 years. I imagine that Frances, the wife of Richard Buckingham, who died at Pangbourne in September, 1708, may have either been a Woolford or Antrum. She died, or rather was buried, November 26th, 1719. Any help will be gratefully acknowledged.—A. STEPHENS DYER.

TULL FAMILY.—Wanted information regarding the descendants of Jethro Tull.—W. J. TULL.

Proceedings of Societies.

OXFORD ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.—VISIT TO READING ABBEY.—On March 4th a visit was paid to Reading by this Society in order to inspect the ruins of the famous Abbey, which is associated in so many ways with our local as well as with our national history. On arrival at the Inner Gateway a brief account of the Abbey was given by Dr. J. B. Hurry, who, with the help of a ground plan, described the arrangement of the buildings comprising a religious house of the 12th century, and gave an outline of a few of the political and religious ecclesiastical events that have occurred within the walls of the Abbey. The party was then conducted through the ruins, During a halt in the Chapter House the well-known canon "Summer is icumin in," which has been described as "the most famous ancient musical composition in existence," was sung by a choir of pupils from Wilson House School, under the direction of Mr. G. Ledger, and with the assistance of some gentlemen who sang the "pes." The visitors expressed great delight at hearing this song, which was first written down at Reading Abbey about 1240, and which ranks as a great masterpiece of mediæval music. At the conclusion of the visit the party were entertained to tea by Mrs. Hurry. In connection with a vote of thanks, warm approval was expressed by the visitors of the wisdom shown by the Corporation of Reading in acquiring these ruins for the public, and in preserving them from further dilapidation.

BERKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—On February 25th this Society had the pleasure of hearing a lecture from Mr. F. Anderson on "Constantinople." The fifth meeting of the Winter Session was held on Thursday, March 25th, when a lecture was given by the President on "Architectural Notes on the Churches of Frilsham, Yattendon, Ashampstead, Hampstead Norris and Aldworth." At the close of the lecture the members and their friends were entertained to tea by the President and Mrs. Keyser. The next lecture will be by Professor Carleton Williams on "The Old Hospitals of Berkshire."

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Vol. 21. No. 2.]

[JULY, 1915.

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The Oxfordshire Archæological Society
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THE JOURNAL IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

EDITED BY

REV. P. H. DITCHFIELD, M.A., F.S.A.

*Rector of Barkham; Fellow of R. Hist. Soc.; Hon. Sec. of
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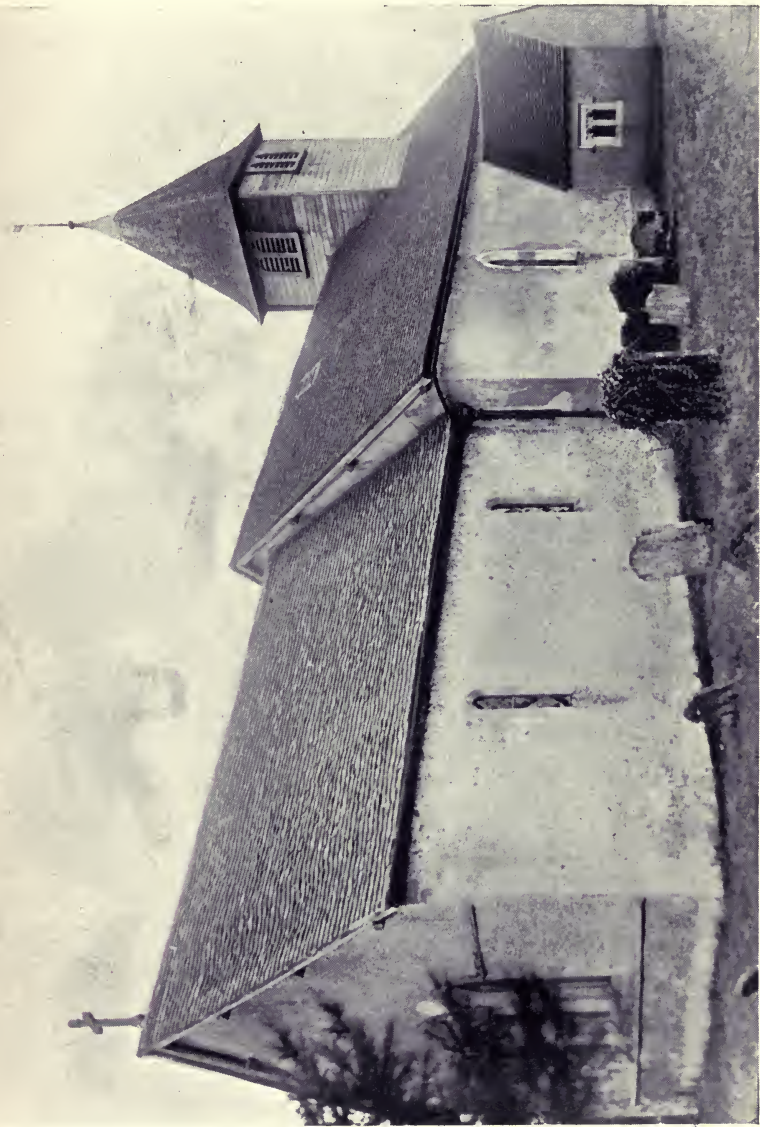


Fig. 17. From the North East





Fig. 18. From the South East



Fig. 19. Interior looking East





Walton Adams & Sons, Reading.

Fig. 20. The Nave looking West





Fig. 21. Painting on North Wall of Chancel



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading

Fig. 22. Paintings on North Wall of Nave



Fig. 23. The North Doorway

ASHAMPSTEAD CHURCH

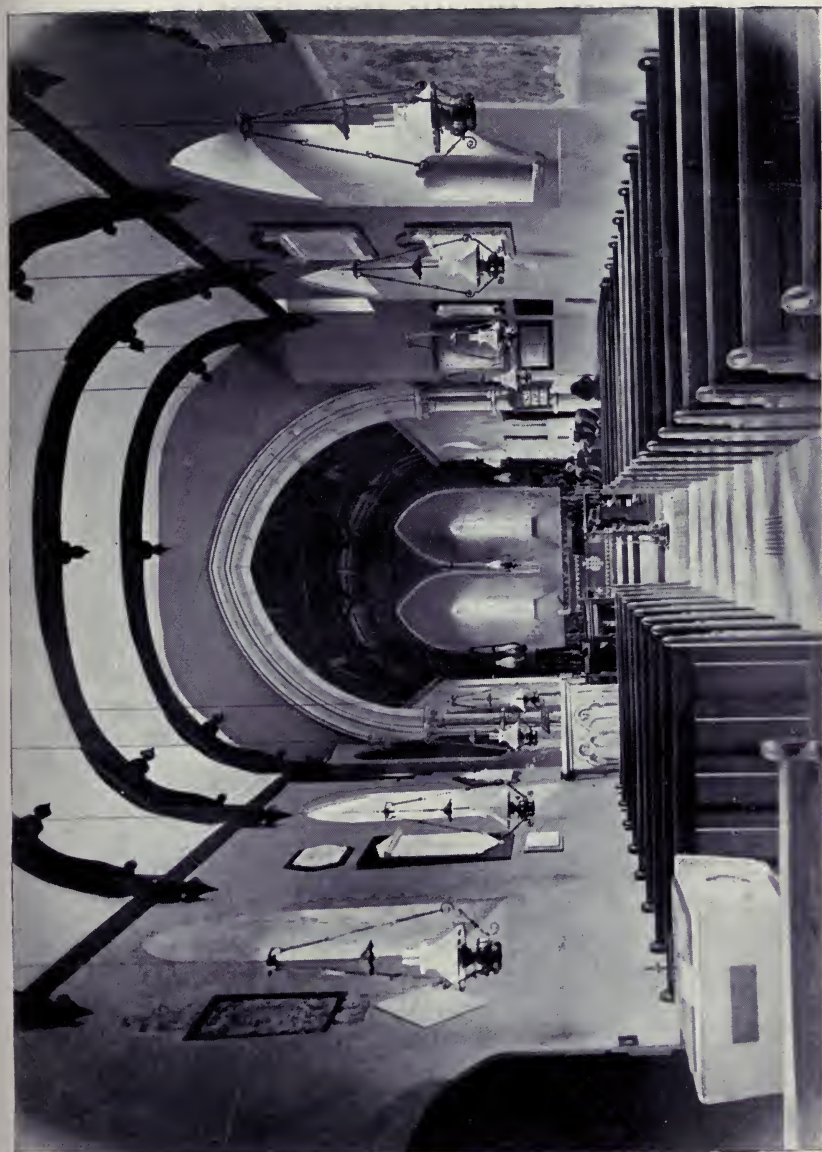


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Fig. 24. The South Doorway



Fig. 25. South Side



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Fig. 26. Interior looking East



Fig. 27. The East Lancets and Aumbrey

HAMPSTEAD NORREYS CHURCH



Walton Adams & Sons. Reading

Fig. 28. Piscina, South Side of Chancel



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading

Fig. 29. The Nave looking West

HAMPSTEAD NORREYS CHURCH



Fig. 30a. Rood Loft Steps



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Fig 30b. Niche for Image,
North Side of Nave



Fig. 31a. Head of Cross



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Fig. 31b. Sculpture, North Side of Nave

HAMPSTEAD NORREYS CHURCH



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Fig. 32. Mural Painting of the Virgin and Child



The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

Notes on the Churches of Frilsham, Wattendon, Ashampstead, Hampstead Norreys and Aldworth.

By Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read before the Berkshire Archæological Society, March 25th, 1915).

(Continued from page 9.)

A drive of between two and three miles along very narrow lanes will bring us to Ashampstead, where the Church (Fig. 17) is chiefly interesting for the mural paintings, which were discovered in 1895. The history of the Parish is very meagre. In the time of Edward III. Sir Gilbert de Ellerfield obtained the Manor in exchange for other lands which he made over to the King. It afterwards came to the Langfords, and has since changed hands on more than one occasion. Thomas de Coleshill (query of Aldermaston) died seized of the Manor of the Wyle in 1357. There is a third Manor of Hartridge, which is supposed to be the same estate which was anciently held by the tenure of keeping a Goss-Hawk for the King.

The Church (Fig. 18) is dedicated to St. Clement, and is the only one in the Diocese with the exception of a modern one at

Oxford, dedicated to that Saint. It was thoroughly and drastically restored in 1849, and a thick coating of brown stucco was probably then laid on the interior walls. In 1895 certain needed repairs were carried out, and it was then that the paintings, which were partly visible under the brown wash, were laid bare by the late Vicar. It was formerly a parochial chapel attached to Basildon. The Church is of simple plan, consisting of a western bell turret, nave with modern vestry on the north side and Chancel. It seems to have been erected about the year 1200, when a considerable amount of Church building was going on in the County. Some perpendicular windows have been inserted, and the west turret with its supports was also a 15th century addition. The triple lancet at the east end was probably put in during the 1849 restoration. Starting in the interior of the Chancel (Fig. 19) we notice on the north and south sides two widely splayed obtusely pointed lancets, which Parker, in the *Ecclesiastical Topography*, considers to be of transitional Norman date. The eastern portions of the lower walls have been panelled, but an opening has been cut on the south side revealing a plain square opening for the piscina with half the basin remaining. The roof is high pitched with tie beams and good frame work. There is no Chancel arch, but the roodbeam remains with a plaster partition filling up the space above. In the nave is one lancet on the north side, and three squareheaded perpendicular windows, the central one of three lights, the other two of two lights on the south side. The roof is high pitched and with tie beams. At the west (Fig. 20) end are the timber supports for the turret, probably of late 15th century date. There is a single lancet in the west wall. There are several tablets on the north wall, one near the east end to Mary Pocock. As has been stated, the chief object of interest in the Church is the scheme of Mural Painting, which has been described in the *Archæological Journal*, Vol. LIII. page 177, *The Reliquary and Illustrated Archæologist*, Vol. II., page 53, and the *Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal*, Vol. II., page 9. Last year an expert was engaged to still further explore the walls, but very little additional painting was discovered. Some of the brown wash has been removed from the splays of the Chancel windows, and traces of colour with foliage have been exposed on the west window on the south side. Along the north wall is a pattern of roses on stems and scroll ornament, and above a rich scroll border all in red (Fig. 21). On the north wall on the east side of the west lancet is a very pretty Consecration Cross with a cross patee in white on a red ground within a

yellow circular border. On the north wall of the nave the space to the east of the lancet window is occupied by the Pocock and another tablet, but traces of a subject no doubt in continuation of the series to the west of it can be made out, with part of a border in red with a kind of antique pattern in red. On both splays of the adjoining window is a bold scroll pattern in yellow and red, with bunches of fruit or ivy berries. Adjoining this, and between the window and the doorway, are four subjects (Fig. 22) under trefoil-headed arches, similar to those at West Chiltington Church, Sussex. The ground-work within the arches is deep crimson and vermilion alternately, outside the same colours being reversed. The arches seem to have been painted blue. There are battlements with spires at intervals above. The first subject from the west is the Annunciation. On the east side is the Blessed Virgin with nimbus and red cloak and upraised hand, and the Holy Dove in white close to her ear. The western portion with the Archangel has perished, the ground within the arch is crimson, and vermilion outside. In the next compartment the ground-work is vermilion inside and crimson outside the arch. Here is a representation of the Salutation or Visitation. The Blessed Virgin and Elizabeth are standing facing and with hands raised towards each other. They are in flowing robes, but the colour has gone. They are within a tent with the side open. The next compartment has the ground-work crimson within and vermilion outside the arch. It is the most perfect and interesting of the series, and represents the Nativity. On the lower level is the Blessed Virgin lying on a couch with crimson drapery. Her dress is outlined in red. Her left hand is stretched out towards a table above her on which her Divine Son is lying, with Joseph and an Angel at the foot, and the heads of the ox and the ass appearing behind in adoration of the Holy Child. Within the next compartment, where the ground colour is vermilion within and crimson outside the arch, is the Angel appearing to the Shepherds. He has a robe down to the ankles and outspread wing. He has the right hand stretched out towards three figures, one in crimson robe with hand raised to the head, only parts of the others being visible, one holding a staff. Part of an animal, probably a lamb, was discernible, but it is doubtful if it can now be made out. There is foliage in white and crimson. The arches are from 36 to 33 inches in height and 33 inches in breadth, and the figures vary from 30 to 27 inches in height. Above is the rich border with the antique scroll in red on a white ground and traces of paintings above, but obliterated by a

set of black letter commandments. Over the doorway is an indistinct subject mixed up with a black letter text. It may, and ought to, be St. Christopher, as part of an arm clad in red grasping a yellow staff can be made out. There are several more texts on the walls, and these are identified by the entry in the Churchwardens' accounts for 1725: "Pd. the paynter for drawing the sentences in the Church, £2 10s. od." When the principal series of paintings were discovered some of the more delicate colours were visible, but I doubt if they can now be made out. On the plaster space over the rood beam has been a large subject, which is not now decipherable. One would expect the Doom to be represented here, but in the accounts of the paintings soon after their discovery it is stated that here was the Crucifixion with the Virgin and St. John on either side of the Cross. In the gable is a large circular object surrounded by rays, which it is suggested is a sunflower, but with more probability may be identified as the sun. This painting is probably of the 15th century, while the more important series may have been executed in the second half of the 13th century.

The north doorway (Fig. 23) within a modern vestry has a chamfered hoodmould possibly terminating on heads, and has a plain chamfered arch and jambs. It is obtusely pointed and may be of the transitional Norman period. On the interior side the arch is segmental-headed and has some colouring on the soffit. The south doorway has the interior arch much loftier than the exterior. On the outside (Fig. 24) it is pointed with an undercut label or hoodmould, two plain chamfered orders to the arch and jambs and small chamfered abacus. There is the original chamfered stringcourse along the west wall. The turret is composed of boards and the spire of wooden shingles. The lancet windows have no dripstones or hoodmoulds. The perpendicular windows are much modernised and have external labels. There is a small plain blocked doorway on the south of the Chancel. In the north wall of the nave is the stump of a tree. The walls are covered with rough cast. The length of the Church is given as 78ft. 3ins. ; the Chancel is 14ft. wide, the nave being 2ft. 9ins. broader on the north and 3ft. 2ins. on the south side. Close to the Church is Church Cottage. On the walls of one of the rooms is some decorative painting in black and yellow, probably of 16th century date.

A drive of about two miles, partly over an unenclosed lane, will bring us to Hampstead Norreys or Norris, as it is now called. It was formerly styled Hampstead Cifrewast and Hampstead Ferrars, as

it belonged successively to those families. An admirable paper on this Parish and the many early antiquities within its borders was read by that distinguished antiquary Mr. Walter Money, F.S.A., at a meeting of the Newbury and District Field Club in 1885, and we find a large number of references to this Parish in ancient Records. There are several Manors, which all got into the possession of the Norreys and afterwards to the Bertie family, the Manor of Bodenhampstead or Bothampstead having previously belonged to the De la Beches and Langfords. Mr. Money gives a very full genealogy of the Norreys family, and many other interesting details, which embrace almost everything which can be said of the Parish. At the secluded hamlet of Wellhouse resided for many generations the family of Doncastle. Oakhurst, or Oakhouse, formerly belonged to Poughley Priory, and with other possessions of that Priory was appropriated by Cardinal Wolsey for the endowment of his new College of Christ Church, Oxford. Lysons informs us that the great tithes were appropriated to the Priory of Goring in Oxfordshire.

The Parish Church (Fig. 25), which is mentioned in the Domesday Survey, is dedicated to St. Mary, and consists of a west tower, nave with north porch and chancel. It appears to have been built very late in the 12th century, and to have been completed as we now see it, with some slight additions, early in the 13th century. Some alterations took place in the 15th century, when the tower was repaired, some windows inserted and the rood-loft stairs constructed, and unfortunately in more modern times a more drastic restoration was carried out. Even before this much mischief was done to the Church, a Norman font having been given away by the Churchwardens, while the two brasses mentioned by Ashmole, with the following inscriptions, have long since disappeared :—

“ Hic jacet Ricardus Smert qui obiit 23 die Maii 1468, cujus
“ anime propicietur Deus Amen.”

“ Hic jacet Johannes Pocock, qui obiit 21 die Mensis Junii
“ an Domini Millimo ccccxxxiii cujus anime propicietur
“ Deus Amen.”

The dimensions of the Church are given as 108 feet in length by 20½ feet in breadth.

Taking up our position in the interior of the Chancel (Fig. 26) we first notice the east windows, which are of very good design, but do not appear to correspond with the description in the Ecclesiastical Topography. There are two lancets (Fig. 27) widely splayed

with the keel shaped moulding round and down the jambs of the containing arches. On the north is a single wide splayed lancet, and there are two more lancets on the south, the western one having a groove round the arch, and brought down in the wall so as to form a low side window. In the north wall is a large and deep aumbrey with two oblong openings. On the south side (Fig. 28) is a piscina with early flat trefoiled canopy and shelf, and circular basin and half shaft attached to the wall. The eastern part of the Chancel roof is panelled and new, the western part high pitched and partly of 15th century date. The present Chancel arch is new, but we are informed that the old Chancel arch was of Transitional Norman date with solid partition wall above, but all has been swept away. We may, therefore, consider that the building of the Church was commenced at the west end and carried on to the east, and that the date of the Chancel is quite the beginning of the 13th century. At the restoration of the Church remains of a stone screen were found, but unfortunately they were not preserved.

The nave roof (Fig. 29) is underdrawn with pendants and a date 1635 records the time of its construction. In the north wall quite at the east end are the upper and lower doorways (Fig. 30A) and the steps, which terminate six feet from the ground, leading to the rood-loft. A tiny window was inserted to light the staircase. On the south side is a small trefoiled window within a square frame on a high level forming a high side window to give light to the rood-loft. All this work was an addition of the late 15th century. In the south wall near the east end is a plain recess with basin for the piscina. On south of the nave are two two-light windows in the Perpendicular style but very much renewed. In the east splay of the western (Fig. 30B) of these is a plain trefoiled canopy and embattled pedestal for a figure. Near the west end, also in the south wall, are two lancets the west one trefoil-headed. On the north side are three single lancets, and near the west end a double lancet within a containing arch having a trefoiled fringe. By the north doorway is a deep arched recess (query for the holy water stoup) and let into the wall the head of a Cross (Fig. 31A). It has a small Maltese Cross at the centre and is very well carved. Here is the modern font, and another one described by Mr. Money as a "pudding basin" presented to the Church by Mr. Benjamin Matthews in 1768, as we learn from the inscription on the bowl. It was then that the old Norman font was given to Mr. Ackerman, and was presented by him to Stone Church in Buckinghamshire, where it still remains.

It is a very fine example of Norman work, and is enriched with varied sculpture. The parishioners certainly made a poor bargain in obtaining the "pudding basin" for this large and elegant specimen of Norman work.

On the south side of the nave and within the walled-up Norman arch is a very interesting sculpture of a Knight on a pale blue stone (Fig. 31B). It had been used as a step for the priest's door, and was taken up and placed in its present position. It represents a mailed Knight with flat closed helm, on horseback, with long spear held straight before him and a shield in front of his body. From the shape of the helm and other features, Mr. Money puts the date as of the latter part of the 12th century. It is probably a relic of the former Church. On the wall adjoining is (Fig. 32) a large and interesting painting, the only one preserved out of several discovered during the restoration of the Church. A Consecration Cross was found on the north wall of the nave. At the same time "many fragments of alabaster figures, which probably belonged to an ancient reredos or a side altar demolished at the Reformation, were found under the floor of the Church." Query, have they been preserved? The existing painting was enclosed within a glazed panel, and has been much injured. It has recently been carefully treated and proper steps have been taken to ensure its preservation. Under a trefoiled arch is nearly a full-sized figure of the Blessed Virgin. The back ground is a deep red, The figure of the Virgin is not very clear, but her robe is outlined in red. She is seated and bending over towards her Divine Infant Son, who is lying in her lap. The arch rests on foliated capitals and shafts. The date seems to be of the 13th century. It must have been a painting of great delicacy and beauty. The tower arch is much hidden by the gallery. It is obtusely pointed transition Norman with chamfered hoodmould and arch, plain jambs and modern massive abaci. There is a newel staircase up to the tower, with nice 15th century doorway on north side. The earliest bell dates from 1619, and was cast by Henry Knight, the celebrated bell-founder of Reading. The west window is of three lights in the perpendicular style. There are several solid old oak benches. The interior arches of the north and south doorways are segmental-headed.

(To be continued.)



Berkshire Archaeological Society.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual business meeting of the Society was held at the Abbey Gateway, Reading, on Monday, May 3rd, 1915, at 3.30 p.m., C. E. Keyser, Esq., M.A., F.S.A., in the chair.

The proceedings began with the reading of the Annual Report by the Hon. Secretary.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Committee have the honour to present the Report for the year 1914.

LECTURES AND EXCURSIONS.

During the year under review the Society has held, as in past years, the customary winter session, when lectures on various archæological or historical subjects were given.

On the occasion of the last annual meeting, April 28th, 1914, a lecture on "The Road System of Mediæval England" was given by Professor F. M. Stenton, of University College, Reading.

The first lecture of the winter session of 1914-15 was on November 24th, when the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield took as his subject "The Towers and Spires of Village Churches."

On December 14th, Mr. J. Hautenville Cope, who had in the session of 1913-14 lectured on Winchester, continued his account of that historic city.

"Pedigrees and Genealogies," by Mrs. Cope, on January 21st formed an interesting topic. This lecture was full of original research, and was given from scanty notes.

Mr. W. C. F. Anderson, who has travelled extensively in the Balkan Peninsula, described "Constantinople" on February 24th.

"The Architecture of the Churches of Frilsham, Yattendon, Ashampstead, Hampstead Norris and Aldworth" formed the subject of the President's lecture, which was given on March 25th. His lecture, which all members look forward to, was, as usual, most interesting. It will appear in "The Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal." As on previous occasions, his lecture was illustrated by lantern slides from photographs specially taken by Messrs. Walton Adams, of Reading, whose high standard of work comes out so very clear on the screen and shows the true artist's knowledge of light and shade and the best point of view for subjects.

Your Society wishes to record its grateful thanks to those who have given the lectures. The task of providing these lectures was somewhat more difficult this year on account of the war. At each of these meetings the attendance was large, a proof that the lectures are appreciated by the members.

At the conclusion of each of the lectures tea was generously provided by those members whose names appear as hosts, viz. : The President and Mrs. Keyser, Mr. and Mrs. Fellowes, Mr. and Mrs. Petrocokino, Mrs. and Miss Wedderburn, and Mr. and Mrs. Carleton Williams. To all these ladies and gentlemen a hearty vote of thanks is due for their hospitality.

EXCURSIONS.

Only two excursions took place during the summer ; like every other Society, thoughts were turned into less peaceful direction than archæology.

Following what has become an established custom, the Society carried out a "two-day" excursion to Chichester on the 11th and 12th June, 1914. On arrival at the City the Society made its way to its local headquarters, The Dolphin Hotel, from where a move was made to the cathedral ; here the party was met by the cathedral surveyor, Mr. Gordon Hills, who described the architectural features and the various historic events connected with the building. After this a tour was made round the cathedral and the chapels of St. George and St. Clement, etc., and the site of St. Richard's shrine and the library were visited. Having seen the cathedral, Mr. Gordon Hills took the visitors to the Bishop's Palace ; the interesting almshouse, known as St. Mary's Hospital, under the guidance of Canon Masters, was next seen ; after this, the Priory Park, in which

are situated the ruins of the Grey Friars Monastery. Other places shown during the same afternoon were the council chamber and the old house once the residence of the Earl of Scarborough. In the evening the Mayor and Mayoress held a reception for the Society to see the Corporation MSS. and the city plate. On the following day Bosham Church, Kingly Vale, and Boxgrove Church were seen.

The Society takes this opportunity of expressing its gratitude to all who made this excursion such a success. Special thanks are due to the Mayor and Mayoress of Chichester, also to Mr. Gordon Hills, Canon Jones and Canon Masters, both of Chichester Cathedral, as well as to the Rev. K. H. Macdermott, Vicar of Bosham, and the Rev. Richard Wells, Vicar of Boxgrove.

On July 20th an excursion in connection with the Newbury Field Club was made to Hampstead Norris, Aldworth, Ashampstead, Yattendon and Frilsham; at each of these places the Churches were most cleverly described by our President, and have since been described in his annual lecture to the Society.

It is hoped during the coming summer to have a three-days' excursion to Salisbury, Stonehenge and Romsey Abbey, in conjunction with the British Archæological Association.

PUBLICATIONS.

"The Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal," which is the official journal of the Berkshire Archæological Society, has now reached its 21st year of publication. A short description of its commencement will be found on the first page of the April number. During the time it has been in existence it has been the means of elucidating much information relating to the three counties.

For several years past our President has enriched its pages with delightful and brilliant descriptions of our Berkshire Churches, accompanied by the splendid series of illustrations which he so generously presents to the journal.

While thanking all those who have contributed to its pages, the Editors would ask new correspondents to come forward—their contributions would indeed be most welcome. Information relating to the geology, the botany, the mycology (fungi), the "field archæology," the tumuli, lists of moated houses, boundary banks, folk-lore, traditions—for all these subjects in this County a large field lies waiting to be explored. Members of the Society are asked to assist in this and similar work.

Major Kempthorne, R.A.M.C., whose interesting account of the parish of Sandhurst has been appearing in recent numbers, was ordered to the front during the early part of the war. He was wounded and taken prisoner at Mons ; but towards the close of the year was released by the Germans. He is now, we are pleased to say, back again at duty in England.

The third and fourth volumes of the "Victoria County History of Berkshire," under the editorship of Mr. W. Page, F.S.A., and the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, F.S.A., assisted by Mr. J. Hautenville Copé, are now in the Press, and in due course will be issued.

OBITUARY.

During the period under review, the Society has lost by death Mr. W. W. Cowslade, whose family had for several generations owned the "Reading Mercury," the leading County paper.

Though he, through age, had not taken a leading part for many years in public affairs, his death leaves a gap which no one else can fill.

Two of our lady members, Mrs. Beaumont and Miss Deacon, have also passed away.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS.

This year (1914) 12 new subscribers joined the Society, while eight retired ; three, as stated in the previous paragraph, have died. The membership, therefore, on the 31st December (1914) was 146. In spite of the war, on which everybody's thoughts and energies have been concentrated, this report demonstrates that the Society can claim to have passed a useful year. It has been able to continue its winter session, thus making known many archæological facts, not only relating to the County of Berkshire, but on antiquarian subjects generally.

Although the various funds in connection with the war have the first and chief claim on the people of this County, your Committee do venture to ask the members of this Society to make known the exceedingly useful work it accomplishes and if possible to enlist new subscribers.

The report was adopted on the proposition of the President, who, in referring to "The Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological

Journal," expressed the wish that more members would take it. He himself provided 50 illustrations each year, and its intrinsic value was far more than the 5s. paid for the four quarterly issues, while a larger circulation would be a great encouragement to Mr. Ditchfield. The Society was financially just holding its own, but they ought to be doing better.

Mr. Ravenscroft produced the financial statement, which showed a balance in hand of £12 6s. 4½d. at the end of 1914. They required more members to pay their way properly.

The balance sheet was passed on the proposition of Mr. Massey.

The Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, in proposing the re-election of Mr. Keyser as President, said that they had in him an ideal president. He was an expert in various branches of archæology and took a very personal interest in the Society and attended their excursions. Mr. Theodore H. White seconded the proposition, which was agreed to with acclamation.

Mr. Keyser, in reply, said he did take a great interest in the Society and its objects.

Mr. Fellowes retired from the Committee owing to leaving the neighbourhood, and Mr. Radford and the Rev. J. Varley were added to it.

In proposing the re-election of the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield as hon. secretary, Mr. Keyser paid a tribute to the great interest he took in the Society.

Mr. J. Hautenville Cope, in seconding, said working as he did with Mr. Ditchfield on the Journal he could say that no one could wish to be associated with a pleasanter colleague, and he knew the very keen personal interest which Mr. Ditchfield took in forwarding the work of the Society. The proposition was carried with acclamation.

The Rev. P. H. Ditchfield proposed the re-election of the treasurer, Mr. E. Ravenscroft, whose work he warmly eulogised. The Rev. Morris Williams was re-elected librarian.

Mr. Keyser supplied some details of the proposed excursion to Salisbury, Stonehenge and Romsey Abbey, the suggested dates being July 1st, 2nd and 3rd. So far as their own County was concerned, it was suggested that they should go to Appleton and Fifield and to Barkham and Finchampstead.

OLD HOSPITALS OF BERKSHIRE.

Professor W. Carleton Williams was to have read a paper on "The Old Hospitals of Berks," but unfortunately he was unable to be present, and the paper was accordingly read by the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield. It noted that many of these old hospitals (almshouses) were carrying on much the same work to-day as they were designed to carry on so long ago, and under somewhat similar conditions. The paper referred mainly to the Hospitals of Christ and St. John, at Abingdon; Jesus Hospital, Bray; the Maison Dieu, Donnington; St. Bartholomew's, Newbury; Lucas' Hospital, Wokingham; Wallingford Almshouses, Lambourne, and Childrey. At St. Bartholomew's, Newbury, it was granted by the King that an annual fair should be held to assist the funds of the hospital, and to provide a priest to sing and two men to say prayers perpetually in the chapel. The provisions for the government of the hospital at Childrey were also commented on. It is laid down that the Master shall be a priest, and shall hold office unless involved in any great crime, or living a bad life, or neglecting his duties, in which case the Governors have the alternative either of dismissing him or "reforming him by suspending his salary."

An interesting discussion followed the paper, and tea was provided by Mrs. F. E. Williams.

Death of Miss Sharp of Upton Court.

While these pages were in the press Miss Sharp, whose account of Beenham has been appearing in successive numbers of this Journal, has passed away.

The MSS. of Beenham are with Mr. Cope and the proof corrections are to be supervised by Mrs. Stanton.

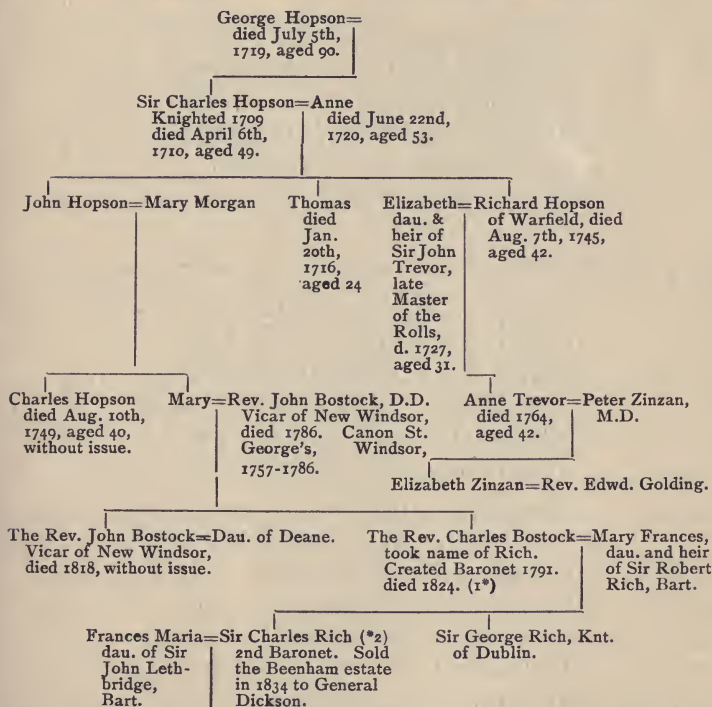
Miss Sharp is a very great loss, she was much beloved by all who were acquainted with her. She was one of our oldest contributors.

Beenham House and Manor.

By Mary Sharp.

(Continued from page 18).

DESCENT OF THE HOPSON, BOSTOCK AND RICH FAMILIES, from Tablets in Beenham Church and other sources.



1* 2 See notes on the descent of Hopson, Bostock and Rich families at end of this Chapter.—J.H.C.

During the time of their joint possession of the two estates a notable change took place affecting the agricultural interests of the parish. The system of common or open fields, already described, (vol. xx., 17) as existing at Beenham came to an end, and to us of the present day it seems almost inconceivable that it should have lasted so long. To show how early the disadvantages of this system

were felt we may quote some verses from a poem published by Thomas Tusser in 1557, entitled "Five Hundred Points of Good Husbandry" :—

The Countrie enclosed I praise.
 The t'other delighteth not me,
 For nothing the wealth it doth raise,
 To such as inferior be.
 How both of them partly I knowe,
 Here somewhat I mind for to show.

.

Where all things in common doth rest
 Corne field with the pasture and meade,
 Though common ye doo for the best,
 Yet what doth it stand ye in steade ?
 There common as commoners do,
 As good else to cobble a shoe.

.

Then, in order to show the advantages of the enclosed country :—

" More plenty of mutton and biefe,
 Corn, butter and cheese of the best,
 More wealth any where (to be brieve),
 More people, more handsome and prest,
 Where find ye ? (go search any coast)
 Than there where enclosure is most.

More work for the labouring man,
 As well in the towne as the field :
 Or thereof (devise if ye can)
 More profit what countries do yield ?
 More seldom where see ye the poore,
 Go begging from doore unto doore ? "

These considerations had naturally become more urgent during the long Napoleonic wars of the early nineteenth century, which, though they did not altogether, as their promoter desired, destroy British trade, still had the effect of enhancing the price of food and the consequent distress of the poorer classes. A passage may be quoted from a letter from Sir Charles Rich in 1804 as significant of the feeling of the time ; writing to Dr. Douglas, the then incumbent, who had apparently asked him for the loan of a county map, he says :—

"I can have no objection to sending you the map, but as there must very soon be a meeting respecting the Enclosure to which I have reason to hope that the trustees of the Downshire property may be induced to agree, I should then bring it with me."

Accordingly in 1811 a Private Act was passed for the benefit of the two Parishes of Beenham and Padworth. The two were thus bracketed together for the reason, as is explained in the preamble to the Act "that the lands and grounds of the respective proprietors in the open and common fields, common meadows and common pastures, lie dispersed in small parcels . . . and are intermixed with each other and the common rights are so blended together that it has been found very difficult to ascertain the boundaries of the said parishes." (See memoranda in Parish Registers).

It was therefore decided that it would be advantageous to the several owners and proprietors, "if the same were divided into and allotted amongst them according to their respective rights and interests." Thereupon Commissioners were appointed and empowered to turn and stop every carriage road or way, either in the open fields or enclosed grounds, though an appeal might be made against their decision at Quarter Sessions.

Also, before allotting the lands, they were to search for peat or peat earth and to make allowance for its value. The lay Rector and the Vicar were to be allotted lands in lieu of their tithes issuing from the open fields, and also from old enclosures, such lands to be henceforth tithe free. Owners of ancient enclosures, not entitled to allotments large enough to admit of giving land in lieu of tithes, were to pay a yearly corn rent.

Padworth Common was not to be enclosed, nor were parts of the open fields called Aldermaston East Mead, Woolhampton Common Field, alias Inglefield. These last were not to be included in the Enclosure except as to tithes.

Beenham Farm being in the hands of several joint owners and tenants no division was to be made without the consent in writing of all of them.

Proprietors (except the lay Rector and Vicar of Beenham) were to pay for fencing and enclosing their allotments.

The Commissioners finally accomplished their task and allotments were awarded to the following land owners :—

Sir Charles Rich, the lay Rector.

The Rev. John Bushnell, the Vicar.

The Rev. John Bostock.

The devisees of Winchcomb Henry Hartley, Esq.

The Rev. W. H. H. Hartley.

William Congreve, Esq.

Sir William Elford, Thomas Ryder, Samuel Kent, and
William, Richard and John Stephens, joint proprietors
of Beenham Farm.

William, Richard and John Stephens.

Charles Stock.

Anne Webb.

Robert Webb.

Thomas Carter.

Joseph Cave.

James Warman.

And further, at the request of the persons entitled to the Lands and Hereditaments called Beenham Farm, division was made to Sir William Elford, Thomas Ryder and Samuel Kent in lieu of their undivided third parts of the farm out of the 22 acres with the nine allotments awarded to them ; one plot consisting of the homestead, gardens and pasture, called Beenham Farm and the private roads leading thereto.

All these allotments and boundaries are particularly described on a map attached to the Award, which, with a copy of the Award itself, was ordered to be deposited in the Parish Church of Beenham.

But little now remains to be recorded to bring the history up to date. The Rev. John Bostock died leaving no children and was buried at Beenham on the 5th of June, 1815. On the occasion of his funeral Mr. John Bushnell, the then vicar, has left a note that the pulpit and desk in the church were hung with black cloth, and adds " N.B.—I gave the covering to the desk, tho' my own, to the Clerk."

Sir Charles Rich, brother to John Bostock, then became the sole owner of the estate, including the land he had himself purchased from Mrs. Lybbe Powys, and also what he then inherited through his grandmother, the heiress of the Hopson family, by her marriage with Dr. Bostock. He subsequently purchased the manor, late the property of Reading Abbey, and also added the old Manor Farm and its appurtenances to his possessions, of which we now hear for the last time as a separate estate. It was he who built the present mansion known as Beenham House. It stands very much on the site of the older one. It has undoubtedly superior advan-

tages in respect of size and contains a fine suite of sitting rooms, but it is to be regretted that no print exists to give us the opportunity of further comparison.

The Beenham Estate, as Sir Charles Rich left it at his death in 1824, was sold by his son, the second baronet, in 1834 to General, then Colonel, Dickson, a retired Indian officer. If report says true, he had not many country tastes, and though he lived there he did not do much to improve or beautify his property. The flower garden consisted of a narrow strip in front of the sitting rooms, about twelve feet wide, for he is said to have remarked that the only flower he cared for was a cauliflower. Nevertheless he was anxious to establish his descendants as a county family. By his will the estate was strictly entailed on his two sons and their children and then on the descendants of his daughters. He died in 1848 and an inscription on a slab in the Parish Church gives an account of his career :—

Sacred to the Memory of General Dickson, C.B.,
of the Hon^{ble}. E.I.C. Service, Colonel of the
Sixth Light Infantry, Madras. He was actively
employed for thirty years, was present at the
Siege of Seringapatam, at the taking of the
Island of Java, and in many other actions,
and was honourably distinguished for his brave
and meritorious conduct.

He departed this life at his residence Beenham
House in this Parish, on the 11th of Sept., 1848,
aged 69 years.

An inscription on a brass plate records :—

“The clock in the Tower of this Church was erected
in affectionate memory of Harriet Dickson [his wife],
whose remains are interred in the Churchyard,
by her two surviving children, Harriet Eliza Neeld
and William Thomas Dickson, A.D. 1877.”

General Dickson's sons were both colonels in the army. They never lived at Beenham House.

At the death of the eldest, Colonel Samuel Dickson, without children, the estate passed to his younger brother, Thomas, but the house was always let to tenants, and as soon as his nephew, the son of Lady Neeld, came of age the entail was cut off and the property was sold.

Only once again did a member of the Dickson family claim his right as a parishioner. On the 7th of August, 1909, a full military funeral procession arrived at the quiet country station of Aldermaston, with a detachment of Lancers, headed by an officer, bearing on a gun carriage the last remains of their Colonel Commandant. They bore him up the pretty wooded lane to the vault where his brother and his father had been laid before him and fired a volley over his grave, and the story of his family at Beenham was ended.

A tablet has been put up inside the Church to his memory :—

In loving Memory of
Lieut. Gen^l William Thomas Dickson C.B.
of Beenham House
Hon^y. Col^l. XVI (Queen's) Lancers
In which Regiment he served for
22 years and which he commanded
from 1862 to 1869.

Born 1830. Died 1909.

The new owner, the late Mr. Henry Waring, did much to enlarge and improve the property. He built a fine block of stables at the top of the hill and altered the approach to the house through the park. He also re-faced and strengthened the fabric of the house itself and enlarged the gardens. To the estate he added the farm and its appurtenances, now known as Hall Place, which he purchased from the devisees of Henry Wincheombe Hartley. This outlying freehold is several times referred to in the Parish Books as being "formerly Hildesley's," that is, that it had once been in the possession of the ancient family of that name who occupied an important position in the parish both before and after the time of the Reformation. The actual date of the change of ownership seems implied in the returns for the hearth tax in Beenham in 1663. A double return exists for that same year ; in the first a certain house with six hearths is charged against Mr. Hildesley, and in the second return Sir Henry Winchcomb, Bart., is taxed for the same, Mr. Hildesley's name being omitted. This Sir Henry Winchcomb was the ancestor of the Hartley family.

From 1740 and onwards the farm had been continuously in the occupation as tenant farmers of the Iremonger family, a curious instance of a length of tenure of at least 150 years. They therefore ranked among some of the oldest parishioners. A very interesting series of finely carved tombstones, dating from 1741, preserves their memory in Beenham Churchyard.

(To be continued.)

* NOTES ON THE DESCENT OF THE HOPSON, BOSTOCK
AND RICH FAMILIES.

1. The Rev. Charles Bostock was of Shirley, Hants, second and youngest son of above, born 1752 at Windsor, matriculated St. John's College, Oxford, 30th June, 1768. B.C.L. 1776, D.C.L. 1780. Took by Royal License, 23rd December, 1790, the name of Rich. Created a Baronet 28th July, 1791. "It is to be observed that this creation was nearly eight years before the Baronetcy of Rich (1676), which was held by his wife's father, became extinct by the death of her uncle (Sir George Rich), the sixth and last Baronet, 8th Jan., 1799."—Complete Baronetage, iv., 72-74. He married, as in text, Mary Frances, daughter and heiress of Lieut.-General Sir Robert Rich, Bart. (baronetcy created 24th Jan., 1676), of Roos Hall, Suffolk, Claxton Abbey, Norfolk, and Waverley Abbey, Surrey. Her mother Mary, daughter of Peter Ludlow, of Ardsallagh, Co. Meath, Ireland, whose son Peter was created Earl of Ludlow, and the Rev. Chas. Bostock sold Roos Hall and Waverley Abbey in 1812. He died at Shirley, Hants, 12th Sept., 1824, and was buried in South Audley Street Chapel, London. His widow, who was born 31st May, 1755, died 20th May, 1833, in Upper Grosvenor Street, London, and was buried in South Audley Street Chapel.

2. Sir Charles Rich, who sold Beenham (1834), was born 19th April, 1784. Sheriff of Hampshire 1826-27. Married 6th Nov., 1806, Frances Maria, second and youngest daughter of Sir John Lethbridge, Bart. She died at Tunbridge Wells 20th Feb., 1852. He died at Wallington, Surrey, 22nd Oct., 1857.—J. HAUTENVILLE-COPE.

Mapledurham, Oxfordshire.

THE following short description is from notes made many years ago, so may be worthy of appearing in print :—

The house stands low, almost on the river bank, and is surrounded by magnificent trees. Especially noticeable is the grand avenue opposite the house. Mapledurham is the finest old house in Oxfordshire, a County singularly devoid of old houses, that is, houses dating back to the Elizabethan period. True, there are old houses, but these have been restored after a period of neglect, so that the original furniture and fittings do not remain.

What struck me most inside the house were the family portraits, especially the two immense full-length pictures in the dining room. That on the right, a lady in a black velvet dress with a ruff and long

falling black sleeves, is said to have been one of the St. John family, who married many husbands ; one account said three husbands, but another credited her with seven !

The fine drawing room upstairs has a high dado, above which are portraits. That of Martha Blount was pointed out, also the Blount who built Mapledurham House, as well as a portrait of his wife.

In the next room were curious drawings of the house and five portraits—Martha Blount and her sister as tiny girls and again as young girls, and the other of Pope the poet. These pictures are said to be the same mentioned by Jervis in Macaulay's Essays.

The rooms all lead one into the other, as in most old houses. A panelled room called the bedroom (I think down a passage off the main staircase) has in it two closets or cupboards ; in each of these the floor boards lift up, and by a ladder access is gained into hiding places. These are said to be the only hiding places in the house.

On the grand staircase is a very curious full-length portrait of a Nun holding a skull—one of the Blounts who entered a convent at Bruges.

At the top of the house a long gallery runs the whole length under the roof. It was stored with lumber of all kinds, old pictures and broken furniture.

In the attics is a large room with a raised dais at the end. This was the old Chapel, for in "Recusant" houses they were safer upstairs.

Several of the ceilings have beautiful raised plaster work.

In a little sort of buttery downstairs, within glass cases, were some very excellent pieces of china Wedgwood, blue Chinese, Chelsea, etc., and china figures, also a fine full service of old pewter.

The panelling in the house was much moved about and altered in the middle of the 19th century. The old family deeds proved useful when, in the '80's, a question was raised about the fishing rights and riparian ownership, which Major Robert Blount was, through the deeds, able to settle.

E.E.C.





Sandhurst, Berks.

*By Major G. A. Kempthorne, Royal Army
Medical Corps.*

(Continued from page 28, Vol. 21.)

CHAPTER V.

THE 17TH CENTURY AND THE PARISH RECORDS.

The parish registers begin in the first year of James I. From other sources also we learn something of the village during Stuart times. Norden's Survey of the Forest has already been mentioned. There is also a rental of about the same time preserved in the Public Record Office giving the names and extent of the various fields with their owners.* At this date Richard and John Geale and William Cave were the principal inhabitants. The latter had two houses, one of them described as "a faire house" with thirty acres of pasture and arable adjoining, perhaps "Rivermede." The other householders will be found in a list in the appendix. The total number of families was 23. A branch of the Bullock family resided in Sandhurst and owned land there from 1546 to 1733, and were no doubt connected with the Finchampstead Bullocks who were settled there in 1327. The last time the name is found is at the burial of "Mistress Lidy Bullock" in 1733.

The Gibletts have been honourably connected with the parish for well over three hundred years, filling all the parochial offices. The names also of Watts, Payse and Giles are familiar ones in the Churchwardens' books from the seventeenth century onwards.

* Rentals and Surveys, vol. 199, p. 65.

The following inventory attached to the will of William Jeblet, who died in the year 1649, is of interest as showing the equipment of an ordinary farm house of the better class at that time. This house, which was assessed for six hearths, was probably that occupied by the grandfather of the present representative of the family, Mr. Giblett,* of Sandhurst Farm. It stood on the site of Longdown Lodge, and was re-built towards the end of the eighteenth century to make a house for the curate in charge. This house in its turn disappeared when the present mansion was built.

The inventory of the goods and chattles of William Jeblet, deceased, praised the 26th of March, 1649, by those whose names are hereunder written.

	£	s.	d.
Imprimis his wearing apparrelle in the upper chambre	2	10	0
Item two chests, one trunke, two boxes, and one forme, in a nother chamber	14	0	
Item one cofer and table, a tube, some flaxe and towe in the next chamber	15	0	
Item a bedstead and double bed, two beds, and a payre of blankets and coverlets to them, 3 coffers in a nother chamber	3	08	0
Item a bedstead, one bed, and all that belongeth unto yt in the hall	1	00	0
Item a cubberd and table and joyne tools, a cheyre and coffer, a fyer shovell, one payre of andyeres, a racke, the hooks and one chayre	2	00	0
Item 3 fletchyes of bacon in the mill house ...	2	00	0
Item a powdring trone, 3 kyvens, 6 bowls, 4 firkins, and some other things in the kitchin	1	10	0
Item one dresser, bord, and table, 2 pots and kettles, one spitt, one payre of hangers, 7 skilletts, and certyn peeces of pewter in the meale house ...	4	0	0
Item 3 little tubbes and a greate presse, working tooles, two wheeles	0	2	0
Item 3 hyves of bees	0	15	0
Item sheep	8	00	0
Item one mare and coulthe	5	00	0
Item ry on the ground	1	10	0
Item hay in the barne	1	10	0

* Since this was written Mr. Giblett has died at Sandhurst Farm at an advanced age, he leaves a son and two daughters.

item kyne and bullock	...	...	...	...	26	10	0
Item hogs	...	...	...	...	1	00	0
Item dong and other lumber...	...	...	...	...	1	00	0
				Som	£63	14	0

JOHN DEANE.

WILLIAM FIELDER.

The mark of RAFE × JEBLET."

By his will the deceased directed "My bodye to be buried in the place of Christian burial where it shall please God to call me out of this vale of misery." To his wife Dorothy was to go his house and land until his son John came of age. To his daughter May £30 on reaching the age of 21 and his land called Chadwell. Bequests of 2/6d. each to his godsons Roger Sone and William Bannister, remainder to his wife. Wife's executor, Robert Horn, father in law, and Rafe Jeblet, uncle, trustees.

The poverty of the parish was a source of difficulty in assessing the amount of ship money to be paid to Charles I. The following letter from Sir George Stonehouse, Sheriff of Berks, to Sir Edward Nicholas, Secretary of State, is dated April 4th, 1638.

"I entreat your assistance in the resolution of a case to me doubtful, the rather because it has been examined as well by Sir Richard Harrison and Sir Edward Sawyer as by myself, and the settlement waived by them both. Wokingham town, Wokingham parish, Arborfield, with Newland and Sandhurst, have paid all taxes equally in fourth parts, but Sandhurst is unequal in value to the others. Shall not the value be considered in assessing the ship money?"†

The County on this occasion had to provide a ship of 400 tons and 160 men. The sum of £4,000 was collected, towards which Wokingham contributed £100, Reading £260, and Windsor £100.* The Civil War followed four years later, and we next find Sandhurst assessed for a monthly contribution of £111 12s. 3d. from the Forest Division of the County towards the support of the Armies and Navies of the Commonwealth.‡

We have no entries in the parish records showing how the village was affected by the Civil War. In our neighbourhood Windsor was from the first in the hands of the Roundheads. Reading was lost

† Calendar of State Papers, Dom.

* Tighe and Davies "Annals of Windsor."

‡ British Museum MSS. Wokingham town paid £1 14s. 2d., Wokingham parish £2 12s. 11d., Arborfield £1 19s. 10d., Sandhurst £1 11s. 10d. 1657.

to the King in April, 1643, re-occupied by the Royalists in September, and again evacuated on the approach of Essex and Waller in the following spring. For three years the King's garrison at Basing House held the Salisbury road and kept a force of the enemy busily employed watching them. In March, 1645, the Lord Generals' Life Guards, under Colonel Ludlow, were ordered to Blackwater village to guard against any incursion from that direction, and at the same time we hear of the mutiny of a party of soldiers at Wokingham.

For ten years after the Restoration the parish was without a curate, and it was perhaps in despair of getting any other religious ministration that Mr. Richard Lodge, one of the Churchwardens, took advantage of the "Declaration of Indulgence" to have his house licensed as a Presbyterian Conventicle! *

To return to the parish registers. From 1603 to 1648 the entries are neatly written in Latin. The first few years were evidently copied out at the same time from the original rough records. Later the writing is at times very bad, the work of an illiterate clerk.

In 1653 Cromwell deprived the clergy of their register books, causing them to be handed over to registrars appointed by the parishioners. At the commencement of a new book is the following entry:

"Thomas Dicy of ye parish of Sandhurst in Co. Berks is nominated by ye parishioners and approved by ye next Justice of ye Peace of ye sayd County to be ye parish Registrar according to an Act of Parliament bearing date ye 24th August 1653 and hath taken his corporal oath for ye true registering of all marriages births and burials according to ye sayd Act. In witness whereof I have hereunto seth my hand ye 21st of Marche, 1653.

W. TRUMBALL." †

From this date births are recorded instead of baptisms until the year 1671, when the book passed again into the hands of the Church.

After 1681 there is a note made at each burial that the deceased person had been "buried in woolen" in accordance with the Act of Charles II., by which an affidavit to this effect had to be made either

* State Papers Domestic Car. ii. There is a record of a Baptist Congregation in Sandhurst in 1715.

† This is Sir William Trumball, of Easthampstead, the celebrated diplomatist, a Secretary of State in William and Mary's reign, and the friend and patron of Pope.

before a magistrate, or before a curate other than the one in whose parish the burial took place. For many years these affidavits were sworn before Mr. John Brandon, minister of Finchampstead. The practice fell into abeyance about the middle of the eighteenth century, though the Act was not repealed until 1815.†

One of the parish books contains the minutes of the vestry meetings from 1671 to 1696, during the reigns of Charles II., James II., and William and Mary. This assembly was, of course, in past days a much more important and powerful one than at present. Besides the appointment of the churchwardens, the parishioners on this occasion had to nominate the overseers of the poor, pass the poor rate and the overseers accounts, and arrange for one of their number to serve the office of constable. Waywardens were also appointed to look after the parish roads.

The churchwardens were appointed yearly by the minister and parishioners jointly. It was decided in 1676 that owing to the scarcity of inhabitants to fill the office, one churchwarden only should retire each year, the other continuing in office. The two appointed this year were Ralph Dakins and Thomas Inwood, the minutes being signed by J. Waller (curate), R. Lodge, R. Geale, J. Ayliff and J. Payse. It was the duty of the churchwardens to levy a Church rate for the maintenance of the Church and services, and payment could be enforced by law. A penny rate in 1671 produced the sum of £4 8s. 9d., the expenditure being £6 4s. 0d. Compulsory payment of church rates ceased in 1868.

Small sums for the support of the Church came in frequently on the death of parishioners, who usually left a legacy in their will. For example, John Horne, in 1508, after distributing all his farm stock between his sons and daughters, directed his body to be buried in the Church of Sandhurst, bequeathing 6s. 8d. to the fabric of the same, as well as 20d. to the Mother Church of Salisbury. Lawrence Dennis, in 1591, left 3s. 4d. to the poor, and the same amount for the repair of the Church porch.* The regular fee for breaking ground in the Church appears to have been 6s. 8d., which was the sum received by the churchwardens at the burial of William Chislett in 1671.

† 30 Car. II. Cap. 3. "An Act for the encouragement of the woollen manufactures, and prevention of the exportation of money for the importing of linen." It was repealed by 54 Geo. III., Cap. 108.

* The Church porch was formerly commonly used as a convenient place for the transaction of secular business. Mention is made in Lyons' Finchampstead of a rent due to be paid in the porch of Sandhurst Church on a certain date.

The repair of the churchyard fence was arranged for by a special list of parishioners, published from time to time. We have these lists for 1672, 1738, 1809, 1819, 1829 and 1836.

The overseers were nominated at the Easter Vestry, which in the 18th century was held in the Church, and at the same time the churchwardens were appointed. The waywardens were appointed in December.

A roster of the houses, which had to supply in succession the parish constable, was maintained. The chief duties of this officer seem to have been connected with the administration of the poor law. Journeys were made to other parishes to inquire into the antecedents of paupers, or to convey them back to their place of settlement. All parishioners occupying tenements of the value of £4 and upwards were liable for this duty. Various items connected with the constable's duties occur in the books from time to time. "Militia list 3s. 6d.," "constable's staff 9s.," "going round with orderly constable to inform them on mad dogs 2s.," "for relieving a man travelling pass 1s." Sometimes a man drawn by ballot for the Militia would abscond, when the constable would have to offer a reward for his apprehension.

The proceedings recorded in the minutes of the Vestry meetings of the seventeenth century are brief and chiefly record the names of the officers appointed and the money collected and expended. There are, however, one or two interesting entries.

CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

1672.—The Bounden of the Church-yard Rayles of the paryish of Sandhurst in Cont. Berks correctd. amendd. and set down orderly by the pannell and the foote this 29th day of May Anno Domini 1672: The severall particulars what every Inhabitant, House, and Land are to make and maintain. Beginning at the old oaken stem Eastward at the Chauncell end and so according as the Sun goeth. There being then present at the performing thereof Mr. Richard Banks, Richard Geale, Nicholas Hanbury, Thomas Dicy, Robert Parker, Robert Jennings, Robert Giblett with severell others.

Imprimis The Widow Woods for Mr. Rowse's

Land she holdeth : four pannells amount-

ing to 29 foot & a half.

Richard Geale for the manor one pannell ... 09 foot.

William Cooper for his house & land one pannell	09 foot.
Robert White & Francis	09 foot.
The Church fields gate for the Parsonage ...	05 foot.
Thomas Hall & Joseph Payse for Mr. Raymans Land three pannells	28 foot & a half.
Mr. William Bullock for Hall Grove, Breches Beancroft, Dawne meadowe & Perrymore 3 pannells	31 foot.
Mr. Noah Webbe for his lands 3 pannells ...	22 foot.
Mr. Richard Lodge for his Farm 4 pannells	29 foot & a half.
The Parish Gate to be maintaind by the Parish	08 foot.
John Kent for Richard Deane and John Deane's house and the house of Christopher Parker, Inwoods mead & Cuxes 3 pannells	27 foot.
Mr. William Bullocke for the house & land he dwells in, formerly Pollyes 3 pannells...	27 foot & a half.
Thomas Kirbye for his house one pannell ...	07 foot.
John Giblett for his house and land one pannell	08 foot & a half.
Samuel Geale for James Daws house & land 3 pannells	24 foot & a half.
Thomas Dicy one pannell	11 foot.
John Puckridge one pannell	10 foot.
Mr. William Bullock for Sliford's land 3 pannells	25 foot.
Mr. Rayman's land one pannell	10 foot.
The Parsonage gate for the Parson	05 foot.
The poore's land one pannell	10 foot.
Mr. Rayman's land one pannell	10 foot.
Isaac Baldwin's house & land which the Widow Stevens holdeth one pannell ...	08 foot.
Mr. Richard Lodge more for his farme 2 pannells	17 foot.
Stephen Hall for his house & land Robert Parker holdeth one pannell	08 foot.
William Winch for his house & land one pannell	08 foot.
Richard Russell for Mr. Rouse's land 4 pannells	30 foot.

Richard Geale for land late Sliford 2 pannells	12 foot.
Richard Russell for Mr. Rouse's land 2 pannels	14 foot.
James Dawe for Awmbyro. and Fercroft one pannell	08 foot & a half.
John Ayliffe for Mr. Banks house & land 2 pannels	16 foot & a half.
Mr. Richard Banks for his farm 6 pannells	54 foot.
The heirs of Nicholas Cooper for the house that Mr. Fontleroy dwells in & Perry and for Mr. William Bullocke's Millmeads one pannell	09 foot.
Thomas Inwoods and Richard Heyward for both their houses 2 pannells	16 foot.
Richard Geale 2 pannells	21 foot.
Mr. William Bullock for Moorlands 2 pannells	14 foot.
Mr. Sealand for Moorland meades 2 pannells	13 foot.
The old oaken stem for the Parsonage ...	7 foot & a half.

May 20th, 1686. An accompt of all the Church goodes delivered unto Robert Parker as ffolloweth one silver plate, one silver bowle and a coveringe to it of plate, one pewter fflagon, and one Holland Cloth for the Communion Table."

Compare this with that of the Church goods made in Edward the Sixth's reign. The pewter flagon in later times somehow passed out of the churchwarden's hands. Some years ago Canon Parsons acquired an old pewter pot of this date which had belonged to one of the cottages in the village. The owner had a belief that it at one time belonged to the Church, and it is exactly similar in form to one still among the church plate at Yateley. The existing church plate includes a 17th century paten and a small flagon consisting of a silver gilt bowl to which a plated stem has been added.

"Nov. 31st, 1687. "I Saml. Geale do promise and engage to bestowe two dayes worke with my teeme to amend East Mill Lane within six weekes after the date hereof in Leive of two dayes I was behinde in my duty to the highwayes of ye yeare last past, witness my hand

Marke of

SAMUELL J. GALE."

PURVEYANCE.

"Dec. 31st, 1687. Remaynes in John Geblott's hand six

shillings which he gathered by rate over and above for carryeing of the King's carryages.

Witness my hand JOHN GYBLOT.

	£	s.	d.
Two teemes from Wokingham to Readinge ...	10	0	
Two teemes from Sandhurst to Wokingham and back again	6	0	
Two teemes from Readinge to Windsor	1	4	0
One teeme from Readinge to Windsor and lyeing out one night extraordinary. This allowed by the parish besides the King's paye	14	0	"

"Purveyance" was abolished in the previous reign by law. From the above, however, it appears to have survived in Windsor Forest. The King demanded the right to impress carriages and horses for his journeys and lodging for himself and attendants at a certain price. There was a custom in the parishes near Windsor to levy a rate to keep up relays of teams to lessen the intolerable inconvenience of having the inhabitants horses impressed.*

Dec. 29th, 1688. Samuel Geale denied paying of his rate for the soger's carig which was 7 shillings and four pence, out of which his hors hier came to 2 shillings and six pence from Wokingham to Windsor." †

This was the month after the landing of William of Orange. It will be remembered that the only resistance offered by King James' troops on that occasion was at Reading, where a skirmish took place in the town between William's soldiers and some Irish dragoons.

* Hughes. "History of Sunninghill."

† Until the year 1660 horse and carriage transport for the movement of troops was obtained under the Sovereign's prerogative of "purveyance." On the abrogation of this right, power was granted temporarily to impress carriages for the use of the navy and ordnance. This act was revived for seven years in the first year of James II. It was not, however, till 1692 that authority was given under the Mutiny Act to impress carriages for the arms and baggage of the Army generally. At the present day, under the provisions of the Army Act, magistrates are bound, if requisitioned by the proper military authority, to cause a constable to impress carriages for the conveyance of regimental stores and baggage, and, in case of emergency, for the conveyance of the troops themselves. The amount paid by Government for conveyances so impressed varies in England from 6d. to 1s. a mile according to the kind of waggon, number of horses, etc., and the price of hay and oats. On general mobilisation, owners of horses and vehicles may be compelled to *sell* to Government. [Army Act. Sec. 112 et. seq.]

Notes and Queries

RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERRIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.

THE Editors express the earnest hope that a larger number of Correspondents will avail themselves of these pages, and thus help those responsible for the publication of this Journal to extend its usefulness. There are several Queries—inserted in the Journals for 1914—still remaining unanswered. It is hoped that some readers may solve them.

Notes.

WASHINGTON IN BERKSHIRE.—In a "Collection for Berkshire," by J. Richards, article Hagbourn, B. Mus., Add. M.S.S. 28,660-73, vol. v., p. 14, occurs the following:—"Crosscot, formerly the residence of the celebrated General Washington. He was, when in the English Army, in early life, quartered in Reading, where he formed an intimacy with his landlord's daughter, who afterwards married a Mr. Sims, of this place. Washington subsequently obtained his discharge and took up his residence at Crosscot, where he remained till the American War broke out, when he left for that country. His armchair, which was a portable one, was afterwards in the possession of Mr. Humphrey, of Blewberry, by whom it was sold to General Fox. Mr. Job Lously, Informant." Of course, it is self-evident that the President was never quartered at Reading. I do not know the date of the above extract.—R. J. FYNMORE.

WOOLFORD AND ANTRUM FAMILIES.—In thanking "E.E.C." for reply to my query, I desire to say that Richard Buckeridge (not Buckingham), Vicar of Kingsclere, the son of Thomas Buckeridge, of Basildon, married Martha, daughter of William Wythens, of Grove, Wantage, and one of their daughters named Sarah married George Noyes, of Andover. The Richard Buckeridge, of Pangbourne, whom I thought might have married a Frances Woolford or Antrum, was son of John Buckeridge, of Bowdon, Pangbourne.—A. STEPHENS DYER.

BUCKERIDGE PEDIGREE.—William Withens married at Wantage, 1620.

HISTORY OF READING ABBEY.—Westfield, Reading. 29th June, 1915. Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, Secretary of the Berkshire Archæological Society. Dear Mr Ditchfield,—I have recently published a small Guide to Reading Abbey which is intended for gratuitous distribution to visitors to Reading, or to others who are interested in its medieval history. I shall be very pleased to present a copy of this Guide to any members of the Berkshire Archæological Society who would care to have one, or possibly you may think it of sufficient interest for an annotation in the pages of the Journal. The booklet will be obtainable on application either to the Town Clerk of Reading or at the Public Library. In the case of the members of your Association, I should be willing to send them copies direct.—With kind regards, yours sincerely, JAMIESON B. HURRY.

Queries.

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Vol. 21. No. 3.]

[OCTOBER, 1915.

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THE
Berks, Bucks & Oxon
Archæological Journal.



Published in connection with the following Societies:—

The Berkshire Archæological Society
The Newbury District Field Club
The Oxford Architectural & Historical Society
The Oxfordshire Archæological Society
The Oxford University Antiquarian Society
The Ladies' Brass-rubbing Society of Oxford.

see p.
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THE JOURNAL IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

EDITED BY

REV. P. H. DITCHFIELD, M.A., F.S.A.

*Rector of Barkham; Fellow of R. Hist. Soc.; Hon. Sec. of
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PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY CHAS. SLAUGHTER & SON
London: ELLIOT STOCK, 62, Paternoster Row.

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HAMPSTEAD NORREYS CHURCH



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Fig. 33. The North Doorway

HAMPSTEAD NORREYS CHURCH



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Fig. 34. The West Tower

HAMPSTEAD NORREYS CHURCH



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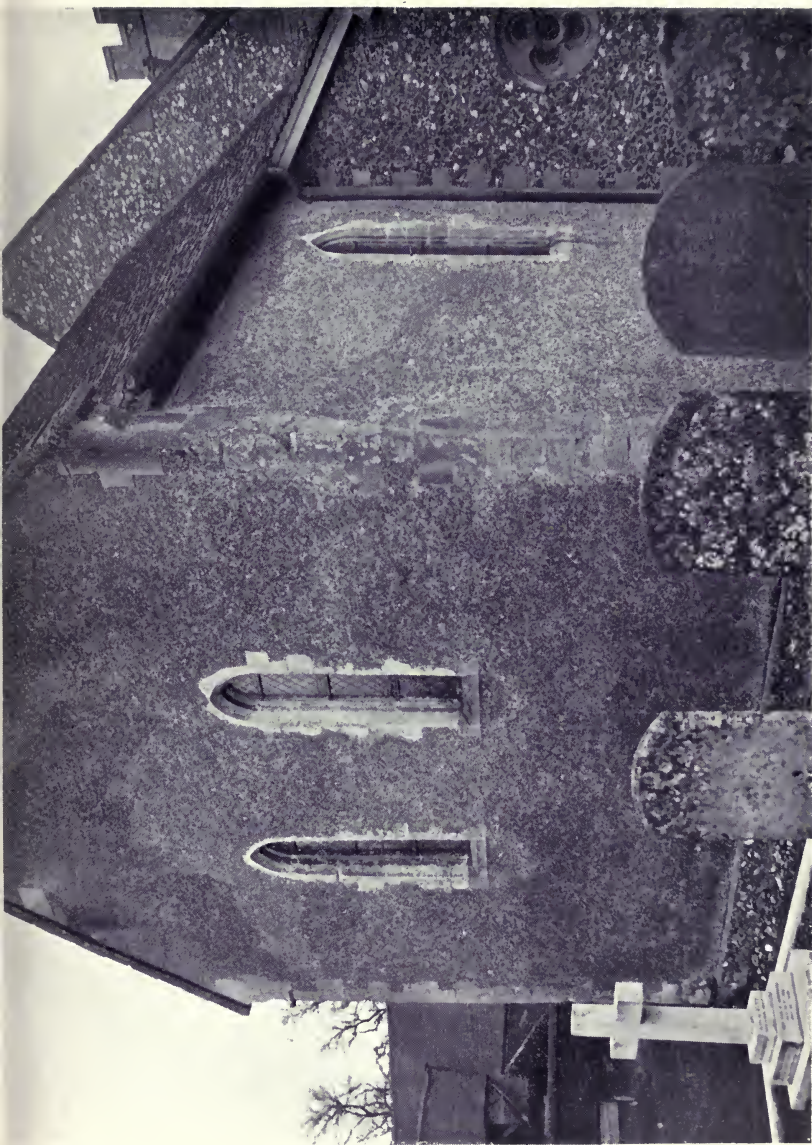
Fig. 35. The South Doorway

HAMPSTEAD NORREYS CHURCH



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Fig. 36. The High-side Window



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Fig. 37. Chancel from the North East

ALDWORTH



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Fig. 38. The Yew Tree



Fig. 39. North Side





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Fig. 40. South Side of Chancel



ALDWORTH CHURCH



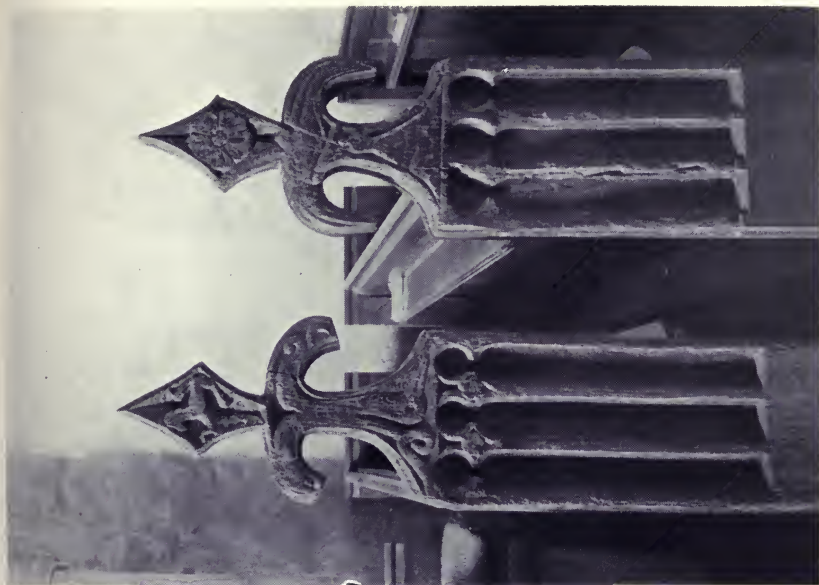
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Fig. 41. Tower Arch and West Window





Fig. 42a. Old Bench Ends



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Fig. 42b. Old Bench Ends

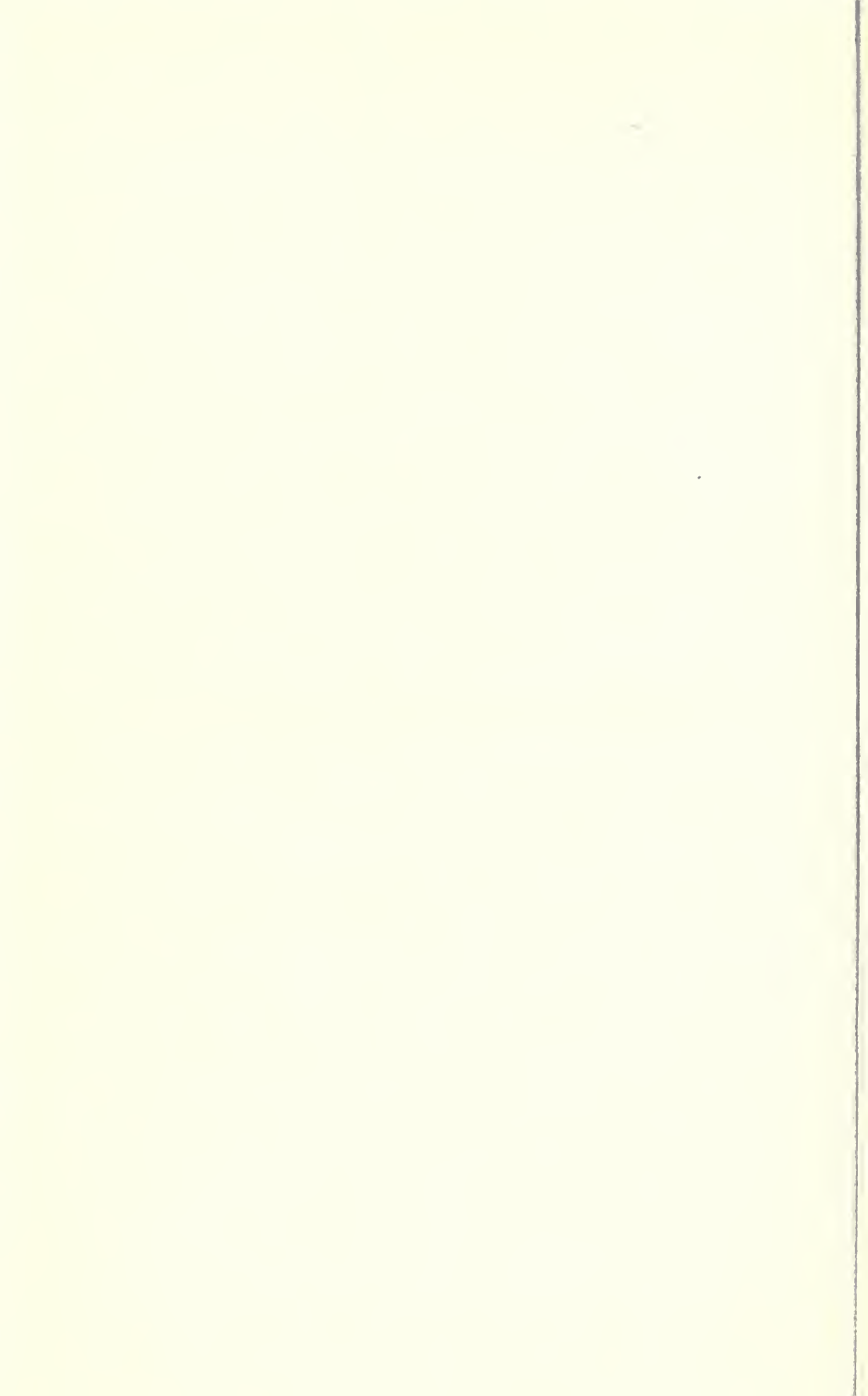


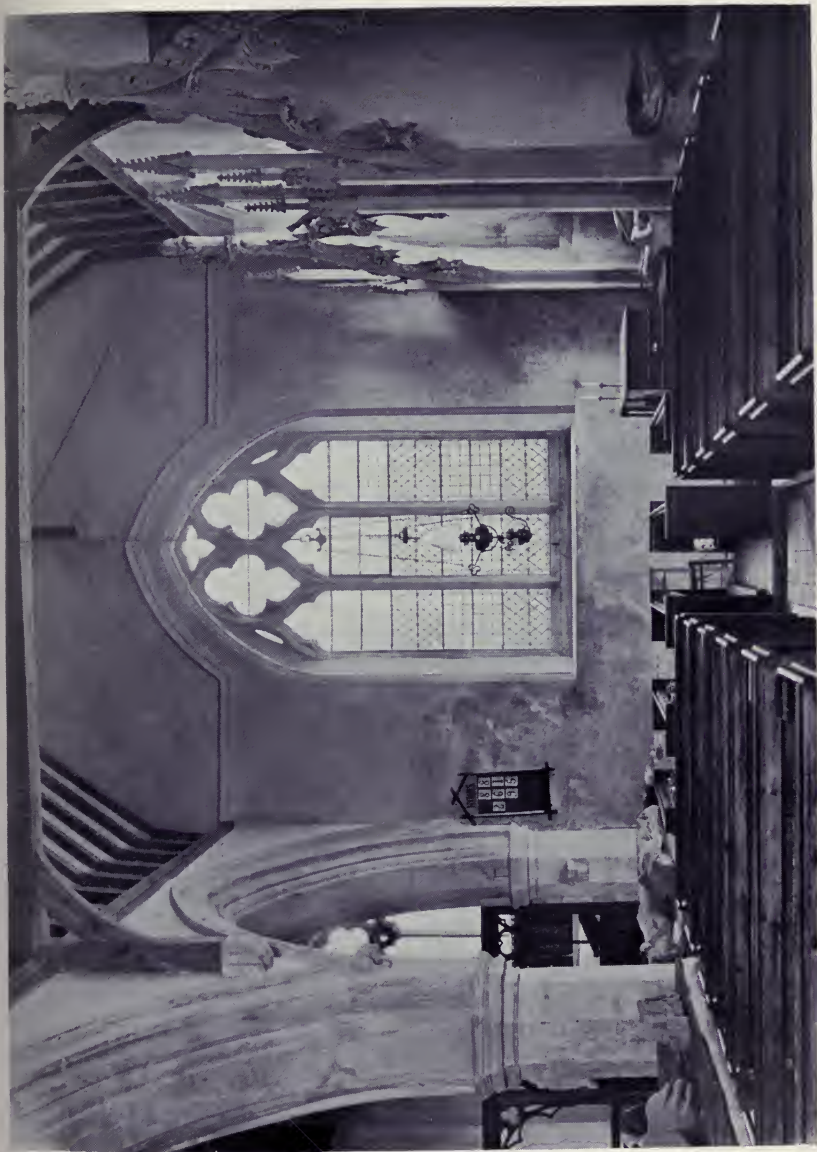


Fig 43a. Corbel in South Aisle



Fig. 43b. Corbel in South Aisle





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Fig. 44. East Window of South Aisle



ALDWORTH CHURCH



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Fig. 45. The Font



ALDWORTH CHURCH



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Fig. 46. Sculptured Figure in Vestry



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Fig. 47. The Tower





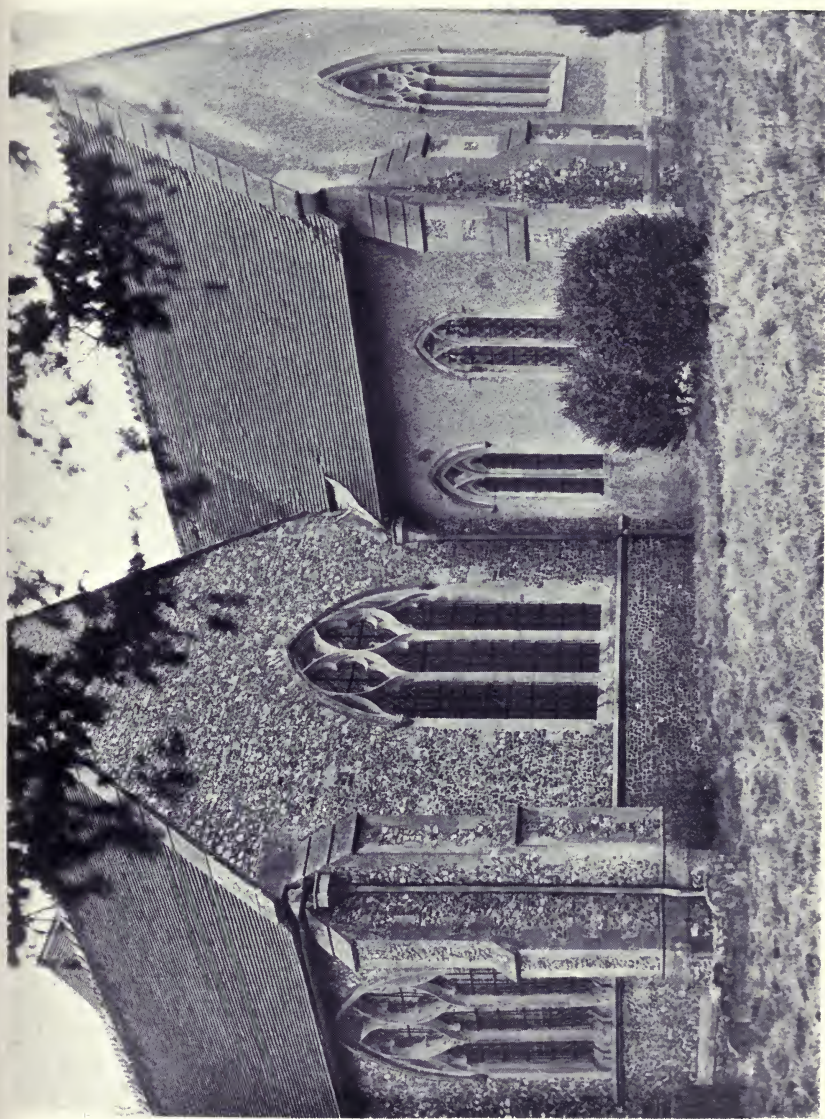
Fig. 48a. The North Doorway



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Fig. 48b. The South Doorway





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Fig. 49. From the South East



ALDWORTH CHURCH



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Fig. 50. Fragments of the original Canopies





The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

Notes on the Churches of Frilsham, Wattendon, Ashampstead, Hampstead Norreys and Aldworth.

By Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read before the Berkshire Archæological Society, March 25th, 1915).

(Continued from page 39.)

The north doorway at Hampstead Norreys (Fig. 33) within a porch is semi-circular-headed and very late Norman. It has two rows of billets arranged alternately within hollow channels on the hoodmould, and plain arch and jambs with chamfered edge and stops to the jambs, and chamfered abacus with small band below. There is one votive cross on the east jamb. The porch is of the Perpendicular period with a two-light window on the east and west sides, and an outer arch with two plain chamfered orders.

The tower (Fig. 34) has a plain projecting turret as far as to the lower part of the upper stage. It (the tower) is oblong and not square, and seems to be in part the transitional Norman structure altered in the Perpendicular period. In the upper stage is a two-light Perpendicular window and small semi-circular light on the north side, a single trefoil-headed light on east, a double light on

south, and another one, not in the centre, on the west. There are some grotesque gargoyles. On the middle stage, north and west, is a small plain window, probably of the Transitional Norman period. The west window of the lower stage has the tracery renewed, but the old label terminating on shields. The west doorway is four-centred late Perpendicular, with square label terminating on shields, and with shields within the spandrels. There are graduated buttresses at the west angles of the tower. On a quoin at the north-east angle is the numeral viii. It may be the concluding portion of an inscription recording the date of the reconstruction of the tower. There is a sanctus bell turret or perhaps a beacon at the top of the tower. The south doorway (Fig. 35) is blocked up, semi-circular-headed with roll on the hoodmould, plain arch and jambs with the edge chamfered off, and late form of abacus with band below. The south Chancel doorway is Early English with plain chamfered arch and jambs much renewed. Many of the windows are new or much renewed. The high side window (Fig. 36) on south of Chancel is the original 15th century one. The south Chancel lancet windows have double grooves round the heads, and are old, as are those on the east (Fig. 37) and north of Chancel and north of nave. In the Churchyard to the north-west of the Church is the base of the old Cross, with quatrefoils carved on it, probably of 15th century date. In his interesting work on the subject of the Inventory taken in 1552 of the ecclesiastical vestments and ornaments at that time in the Berkshire Churches, Mr. Money gives a long list under Hampstead Norreys, showing that it was unusually well endowed, but unfortunately only to provide a rich haul for the greed of the spoilers of Church property at that time.

A drive of about four miles will bring us to Aldworth, the final stage of our journey, where the little Church stands far away from the madding crowd, but claims to be the most interesting Church in Berkshire, owing to the magnificent series of monumental effigies still preserved here. These effigies have been often described, and little can be added to the accounts which have already been written. A very interesting paper was read by the late Vicar, the Rev. R. Lloyd, on the occasion of a visit of the Newbury and District Field Club in 1885, and a comprehensive account with a history of the De La Beche family has been compiled by the same Vicar and kindly lent to me by his successor, the Rev. G. F. Mattinson, the present incumbent.

On Monday, July 25th, 1905, a visit was paid by the members

of the British Archæological Association and the Berkshire Archæological Society to Aldworth Church, and a most interesting address was given by the Rev. G. F. Mattinson, the Vicar, which is set out in Vol. xi., page 77, of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal.

A very large number of notes compiled by Mr. Walter Money for a revised edition of the History of the Hundred of Compton have also been most generously placed at my service, but owing to the superficial manner in which the history of the various places is treated, my object being to describe the Churches, I dare not make much use of the most interesting information entrusted to me.

The early history of Aldworth is closely connected with that of Hampstead Norreys and Yattendon. At the time of the Domesday Survey the principal manor was in the hands of Theodoric, the goldsmith. In 1276 it was conveyed by Thomas de Clare to Robert de Musgros, whose daughter Hawise brought this and the Manor of Hampstead Norreys to the noble family of Ferrars. Two other manors in the parish belonged to the De la Beches, with whom, on account of the monuments, we chiefly associate Aldworth. Through the last co-heiress of this family it descended to the Langfords, and thence, as at Yattendon and Hampstead Norreys, to the Norreys and Bertie families. Although there were so many important families connected with the parish the Rectory got into the hands of the Nunnery of Bromhale, near Windsor. This was a small conventual establishment, and shortly before the Reformation was found to be in a very reduced condition with only three nuns remaining. It was accordingly dissolved, and the revenues, including the Rectory of Aldworth, were used to provide an endowment by Bishop Fisher for the new foundation of St. John's College, Cambridge, to which they now belong.

On approaching the Church from the south-east, the first object which attracts attention is the magnificent yew tree (Fig. 38), one of the finest, not only in Berkshire, but in the United Kingdom. At about four feet from the ground it is said to measure about 28 feet in girth. It was probably here long before the Church was built, its existence being possibly a reason for building the Church in this somewhat isolated situation. Most of the bark has perished, and its vitality seems to be at rather a low ebb, but it will probably last for many generations yet for to come.

The Church (Fig. 39), dedicated to St. Mary, consists of a west tower with conical top, nave, south aisle or chapel, with south porch,

and chancel with vestry on the north side. It is asserted that there was a church here in very early times, and no doubt this had fallen into disrepair or proved inadequate to the wants of the inhabitants, at the time when so much enthusiasm was being shown in church building in this district, and indeed throughout the County. Accordingly we find the west tower and nave dating from the early part of the 13th century. The Chancel is about a century later, 1315 is given as the precise date, and the south Chapel was added to accommodate the De la Beche effigies, it is averred about the year 1340, though the architectural details would suggest rather a later date. No further alterations were made until the wanton destruction of the Covenanters irretrievably ruined the magnificent series of monuments, and this has been further aggravated by the drastic restoration to which the Church was subjected in 1871.

Let us now take up our position in the Chancel and commence our architectural survey of the Church. The east window is new and very poor in the Decorated style. On the south side (Fig. 40) are two two-light Decorated windows. The eastern one has two cinquefoil-headed lights and a quatrefoil in the head, and a fluted containing arch; there is a plain circular sundial on the west jamb, no doubt a relic of the earlier structure. The west window is more elaborate and rather uncommon in its design. It has two lancets with a fillet band on the central shaft and inner sides of the arches, and quarter round to the jambs forming the outer supports of the lancets. These are carried up so as to unite and form one arch in the head with plain quatrefoil in the space between this and the heads of the lancets. Within each of these is a trefoil canopy with solid masonry filling up the space between the canopy and head of the lancet. On the north side is one window of two-lights with two cinquefoiled lancets, and plain chamfered head to the containing arch.

The piscina in the south wall is rather peculiar. It has an oblong lower portion with projecting circular basin, then a solid stone shelf and a cinquefoiled canopy to the arch above. The space is small and suggests the possibility of a relic having been preserved here, as in the somewhat similar situation at Stanford-in-the-Vale in the western portion of the County. Within the sill of the east window on the south side are the sedilia, which are graduated in two plain steps. There is no division or arch between nave and Chancel. The nave roof is high-pitched with tie beams. In the north wall behind the effigy of the first Philip De la Beche on a

low level is a two-light Decorated window. There are three effigies under rich canopies along the north wall, which will be referred to later on.

The tower arch (Fig. 41) is Early English with two plain chamfered orders, undercut abacus, and plain jambs. The west window is a plain Early English lancet. The pulpit is a good specimen of Jacobean work. It was brought from St. Laurence's Church, Reading, having been turned out to make way for a three-decker in the 18th century. There is some excellent 17th century panelling worked up into the reading desk, brought from a farmhouse in the neighbourhood.

At the west end of the nave are preserved three ancient bench ends (Fig. 42) with panelled sides and large well carved poppy heads. The sides are divided into three trefoil-headed compartments. On the poppy head of the east on the north side is carved a Tudor Rose and a bell shaped ornament below ; on the west is a lion in the head and on the lower part two serpents, one erect on its tail, the other head downwards, the head being in the form of a bird with long beak. The bench on the south side has an eagle on the poppy head and beading below. Between the nave and the Chapel are three arches of very good design. On the nave side they have a hollow and quarter-round moulding, and rest on well moulded capitals and solid octagonal columns. The bases of these are in the Perpendicular style, and there is little doubt that the Chapel was built not earlier than the middle of the 14th century. The arcade is more elaborate on the Chapel side, as it has a continuous hood-mould with small roll and a hollow, resting over the columns on corbels sculptured into very grotesque animals (Fig. 43). Under the east and centre arch are two of the series of De la Beche tombs. There is a small bracket in the east wall. The east window (Fig. 44) of the Chapel is a very good specimen of late Decorated work, of three lights with two large quatrefoils and then a small trefoil in the head. On the south side is a three-light, smaller but of similar design, and at the west end another three-light somewhat renewed but almost exactly similar to that at the east end. There are three more of the De la Beche monuments under canopied recesses in the south wall. At the west end is the font (Fig. 45), a relic of the earlier Church, with plain tub-shaped bowl, on large circular plinth.

In the vestry is preserved part of a figure (Fig. 46) of a bearded man with hands folded on the breast. It was found walled up in the lower part of the west window of the aisle in 1845, and in 1884

was brought back to the Church. It is supposed to be a representation of our Blessed Lord being reviled, and was probably part of a *reredos*, and one of a series of subjects of the Passion.

It will be convenient to continue our round on the outside of the Church before attempting the description of the monuments, especially as I cannot profess to add anything to the voluminous accounts which have already been contributed by those who have had a far better opportunity than I have of coming to a conclusion as to their age and identification.

There is not very much on the exterior worthy of special note. The walls are composed of flint and are covered with roughcast. The tower (Fig. 47) has been much renewed or re-built, the lancet in the lower, and a double lancet in the upper, stage on the west side being the original Early English windows. The north (Fig. 48a) doorway has been altered, when the south chapel was built. It has the quarter round and small roll below on the arch, and plain chamfered jambs, which are part of the Early English doorway. The south doorway (Fig. 48b) within a porch is fine but somewhat renewed. It has the quarter round and small roll on the hood-mould, then a fluted outer order and half round to arch and jambs. There is a hoodmould terminating on heads to the east and south windows of the chapel, and the usual characteristic dripstone to the two windows on the south of the Chancel (Fig. 49). On the south of the chapel is a walled up arch. Here, it is said, was another cross-legged effigy in the outer wall, with a canopy above, which has been destroyed. Some very beautiful fragments (Fig. 50) which have been outside, but are now preserved within the Church, may have come from here. They have the ball flower ornament.

As I have said, very full descriptions of the unrivalled series of effigies, together with the biography of the several distinguished personages who are supposed to be commemorated, have already appeared in print, and it is difficult to add anything more. There is no doubt that, even in the 16th century, before the wanton spoliation of our Churches had commenced, and when more of these monumental memorials existed, the Aldworth series was unrivalled, and accordingly we can seriously believe the tradition that Queen Elizabeth turned aside on one of her journeys to visit the Church, that she was shown by the Earl of Leicester a genealogy of the De la Beche's which hung in the Church, and that from that time the said genealogy disappeared. In 1644 a certain Captain Symonds visited the Church and sketched the monuments, and

these sketches are now in the British Museum, and I hope to give an account of them in the next number of the Journal. There was at that time in the middle of the Church a brass with figures of a knight and lady said to be Lord Nicholas De la Beche. There was also one of an ecclesiastic, perhaps Edmund De la Beche, the Archdeacon. It was in or shortly before 1658 that the then Vicar resigned because he would be no party to the spoliation of his Church, which no doubt referred to the wanton destruction wrought by the Cromwellian troops during the great Civil War. Would that these works of art could have been transmitted to us in their pristine splendour, instead of being the objects of the senseless fanaticism of an ultra evangelical section of the Christian community.

All the figures were sketched by my late grandfather, Mr. E. Blore, and are included in the volumes of Churches and Monumental Remains of which I am the fortunate possessor. These were all done in the first half of the 19th century, and I shall have the opportunity of comparing the details as they were then with those at the present time.

I would hazard one conjecture as to the date. It has been suggested that they were all executed to order at one time, and that was at the cost of Sir Nicholas De la Beche, who was tutor to the Black Prince. I entirely agree that they are all of one date, of course varied in costume to suit the several persons represented, and no doubt this Sir Nicholas might have borne the cost, though I am inclined to think that the militant Archdeacon, Edmund De la Beche, being the last direct descendant, was the more likely person to desire to commemorate his ancestors and family in this way. The fact of the canopies being of one design shows at any rate that the scheme was planned to accommodate all the effigies which still exist. In briefly showing the various figures I have adopted the description given by Mr. L. Lloyd, the late Vicar. He attached much importance to the finding a seal of the Lady Isabella on the site of the Manor House, which confirmed the conjectures as to the position she held with regard to the property.

The canopies are very light and elegant in their design, with a profusion of small roses, etc., but unfortunately they are almost entirely modern, copies of the damaged originals and executed at the time of the 1871 restoration of the Church.

(To be continued.)



Sandhurst, Berks.

By Major G. A. Kempthorne, Royal Army
Medical Corps.

(Continued from page 63, Vol. 21.)

RATES.

We have the overseers' accounts from 1751 to 1758 at the end of one of the register books. In spite of the annual charge each year for "wrighting a rate," the writing and spelling are most erratic. Outdoor relief was given throughout the eighteenth century, but paupers were also boarded out among the parishioners. Wokingham and Finchampstead had poor houses in the year 1624, when there is a record of their erection on the waste. The first mention of a poor house in Sandhurst is in 1788, at which time three cottages near the present site of St. Mary's Church were being rented from a man named Horne. Two of them still stand, and are known to the older inhabitants as the "alms houses." There is no record of rents paid for them after 1803.

An annual charge for "gole money" appears in the accounts. It is shown later as "gaol and Bridewell money," and was a rate paid to the county. Money was also expended on cutting the paupers' turf.

The following shows the cost of a pauper's funeral in 1757 :—

	s.	d.
" Jan. 2nd—For a sroud for dame freeman	4	6
For a coffin	7	6
For the grave an Nell	2	6
P ^d for laying out dame freeman an		
affadavy	3	0
P ^d for 4 gans of beer	4	8

For a gane louf	...	...	...	1	1
For three lbs. of cheese	...	...	...	1	0
For a quartan of backo and a peck of pipes	...	...	...	3	0"

From 1787 onwards there is a most carefully kept account with the full assessment for rates made each year by the overseers, passed by the vestry, allowed by two justices, and read out after evening service by the parish clerk.

It appears from the books that from 1787 to 1809 the average rate levied was 4s. 6d. The lists give the names of the tenants of the various fields. The following is the assessment for 1787 :—

"JOSEPH GILES and ROBERT RIDGERS, Overseers.
(a six shilling rate).

				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
John North	for Breech Farm	...	12	18	0	15	6	6	
	Winter's ...	...	1	10	0				
	Crout's ...	...	0	7	6				
	Bounty land	...	1	1	0				
William Giles	for Ambry Hill Farm	17	2	0	24	18	0		
	for Groves or Lower Farm ...	...	7	16				0	
James Giles	for Wattmore's	...	1	16	0	2	14	0	
	Belsher's	...	0	18	0				
Joseph Giles	for The Parsonage	...	8	8	0	10	17	0	
	The Roundabout	...	0	12	0				
	Arbor's ...	...	1	4	0				
	Glebe land	...	0	3	0				
Matthew Justice	for Poor's land	...	1	4	0	4	10	0	
	his own ...	...	3	6	0				
James Giblett	...	...	4	16	0	6	18	0	
	his own ...	...	1	4	0				
	Harries Moor	...	0	18	0				
John Giles	...	...	...	...	...	0	18	0	
William Deane	...	...	...	...	...	3	0	0	
William Berry	...	...	...	...	...	1	10	0	
John Watts	his own ...	...	0	6	0	3	6	0	
	for Ford's ...	...	3	0	0				
William Watts	...	...	2	2	0	4	16	0	
	for Moorland's	...	1	10	0				
	for Wattmore's	...	1	4	0				

William Barnard	...	...	...	...	12	0	0
William Terry (for Mill Lands)	...	...	...	...	9	0	0
Robert Ridgers	...	...	...	7 4 0	}	8	2 0
do. for deep meadows	...	0	18	0			
Moses Rackstrow	...	...	...	3 9 0	}	7	10 0
do. for Hurt Hill land	...	1	19	0			
for Howard's	...	2	4	0			
for Street Lands	...	0	18	0			
George Shefford	...	...	...	...	9	12	0
James Marlow (for Snap Rails)	...	...	...	...	0	18	0
Thomas Liley	...	...	...	...	11	14	0
Charles Eells for the Coppice	...	...	...	...	0	12	0
					£118 2 6"		

The money was expended as follows :—Weekly payments to ten paupers, £55 18s. 2d. ; rents of five paupers and of the parish poor houses, £9 13s. od. ; cutting the poor's firing, £3 10s. od. ; county rates (gaol and Bridewell money), £5 18s. 11½d. ; casualty expenses, etc., £5 5s. 3d. ; relief to persons travelling on pass, 14s. 6d. ; a pauper marriage, £7 13s. 5d. ; two funerals, £2 5s. od. ; clothes for seven paupers, £14 2s. 6d.

PAUPERS.

Under the poor laws of George the Third's reign all kinds of able-bodied people became chargeable to the support of the parish, so that the overseers were kept busily employed in getting rid of impecunious persons who might be an expense to the ratepayers. Tramps were taken up before the magistrate, who gave them a pass to the town or village in which they were last legally settled.

1788. "Sept. 19th.—Paid Farmer Ridgers his self, horse, and cart carrying a woman to Justice Palmers and back, to constable 3s.

Paid William Berry for necessary relief for her 6 days at his house 4s.

Oct. 5th.—Paid James Giles expences for a travelling man in comp^t 1s. 6d.

Paid Farmer Shefford carrying the man to Justice to swear him to his parish, for an order, and conveying to Hurst parish 5s.

Paid James Giles P. Constable for relieving a man and his wife on the road travelling pass, 1s."

It may be of interest to follow the history of one of the families who were receiving relief at this time as revealed by the overseers' books.

On the death of William S—— his wife, mother and three children were left without means of support, and came on the parish. The following year a certain Mr. John L—— was found who was quite prepared to take the widow off the overseers' hands provided he was put to no expense in the matter. So it was arranged that the parish should pay all the expenses of the wedding. The bill, which came to £7 13s. 5d., included the marriage license, legal fees, ring, clergyman, and parish clerk's fees, and board and lodging for the bridegroom in the village. Finally they were provided with a horse and cart to take them to Windsor, where the husband resided.

The history of the rest of the family can be followed in the books. How "old widow S——" had her rent paid weekly, a new ash box, and 4s. "for curing of her lame hand." How the children, William, Fanny and Sall, were boarded out, and how hats, shoes, camblett, thread, buttons, hessian and dowlas were provided where-with to clothe them, and a coffin for poor Sall, who succumbed to small pox the same year.

We follow each year the articles of clothing purchased for Fanny and William, and notice especially a large amount for boot repairs. They were taken in by a farmer for 3s. a week. Then seven years later William is apprenticed to Farmer Rackstraw at 2s. 6d. a week and given "a hatt, jacket, round frock, and a pair of breeches," while Fanny, now dignified with the name of "Frances S——, a servant," is also set to work at a neighbouring house.

In 1795 the parish had to pay £6 7s. 6d. to Surgeon Case for medically attending her, and 2s. for "vinegar, oatmeal, etc., for making of Poltices to her arm."

Fanny's shoe bill to F. Horn in 1795, and William's four years later, are the last we hear of the family.

SMALL POX.

In 1794 an outbreak of small pox occurred in the Doe family, and cost the parish the sum of £17 5s. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. A small pox house is mentioned, and two women were employed as nurses at 2s. 6d. a week. One of them subsequently took the disease and her baby died of it. The detailed expenses include "a bottle of wine and 2lbs. of mutton 2s. 1d., $\frac{1}{2}$ ell sheeting 15d., 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ ells dowlas 16d., sroud for the child 1s., coffin for the child 3s., paid Doe for burying

1s. 4d., paid for beer at the burying of the child 1s. 6d., $\frac{3}{4}$ bottle of wine 2s. 4d., wine and pork 1s. 6d., wine and mutton 2s. 3d., Doe's wife's funeral (including beer and cheese) 18s. 6d., oranges, wine, meat and gin, etc." The doctor's bill was £4 2s. 6d.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

1792. "At a public vestry meeting held this day by the inhabitants of this parish by the churchwardens and overseers we whose names are hereunto written do consent unto and agree to pay the sum of 3 guineas to W^m. Pargeter surgeon and apothecary of Wokingham to attend the poor under the overseers of the parish of Sandhurst Berks under all sicknesses, broken bones, midwifery etc. as may happen, with proper attendance commencing from Easter Ap. 10th 1792, being this present meeting to Easter 1793, one year only, as witness our hand.

[Signed by] JOHN NORTH, JOSEPH GILES, WILLIAM GILES, JNO. WATTS, JOHN × RACKSTROW, MOSES WATTS, WILLIAM WATTS, JOHN GILL, JOHN SHEFFORD, JAMES GIBLETT, PHILIP PARGETER."

During the war all able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 25 were liable to be drawn by ballot for the militia. To avoid their families coming on the parish the overseers would frequently pay for a substitute.

1794. "Paid to Charles Brundon a substitute for Joseph Payse a drawn man for the militia £3 3s. 0d. Paid for the discharge paper 2s. Paid J^{no}. Rackstrow and James Giblett ex^a attending that day substitute was sworn in 5s."
1797. "Paid expenses at James Giles. J^{no}. New in custody a substitute for W^m. Stevens 5s. 11d. Said James Giblett attending one night and going to Oakingham with do. 1s. 6d. Overseers going to do. 1s. Paid expenses at Oakingham having J^{no}. New to join reg^t 3s. 6d. Paid W^m. Stevens being a drawn man in the supplementary militia* £2 12s. 6d. Paid to John Horne for his discharge paper 2s. £3 6s. 5d."

* The Supplementary Militia were raised for service in the county this year to replace the Royal Berks Militia, who were defending the coasts of Kent and Sussex.

1807. "Paid Jas. Justice by order of the magistrates he being drawn for militia for ye parish of Sandhurst £13 10s. od."

The parish had also to help support a man for the Navy.

1795. "Paid at Justice meeting at Wokingham, Sandhurst parish part of the expenses etc. paid for hiring a person for the Navy £5 16s. 3d."

Among the casual expenses, "paid to a sailor 1s." is a common entry, especially in 1803.

The Easter vestry meeting was at one time always the occasion of a dinner.

1800. "Ap. 18th. Paid James Giles for the Easter vestry liquor etc. £1 10s. od. Paid Mr. Goodchild by bill for leg mutton etc. 10s. 6d. Paid for currans and spice for the puddings 1s. 4½d. Paid by liquor after the bill in 2s. 6d."

1803. "Paid for hedge-pigs, sparrow-birds' heads, and jays' heads 16s. 4½d."

1808. "Feb. 7. Paid Thos. Thrift. Expences on y^e highways £3 12s. 8d. For dinners etc. setting out highway for each inhabitant to perform his duty on account of no. of horses kept when each person agreed to keep the road in repairs as then set out by me Anthony Draper."

Thomas Thrift was the landlord of the "Rose and Crown."

BRIEFS.†

One of the register books contains a list of briefs for which collections were made in the parish during the following years:—1680, 1694, 1695, 1704 to 1714, 1738, and 1804 to 1808. They were read out in church before the sermon, after which the churchwardens made a collection in church, and also, if so ordered, round the parish during the week. The objects for which the briefs were issued were mainly the repair of some church or the building of another. Others were for private losses by fire and various secular purposes, for example, "The redeeming of prisoners in Turkey" [1680]; "For the French prodigents" [1694]; "William Boyar's brief, loss by fire £1,162" [1714]; "Dunbar harbour" [1738]. Of the 145 briefs recorded only five were for places within the present Oxford diocese, namely, "Rebuilding All Saints' Church Oxford" [1705]; "William Smith, loss by fire at Anchorwick in

† Briefs were Royal Letters issued to the Bishops, and by them to the clergy of their dioceses, authorizing the collection of money for various charitable purposes. They ceased to be issued in 1853.

Wiradsbury Bucks, damage £554" [1706]; "Chalfont St. Peter's in co. Bucks, repair of church" [1709]; "Twiford, in co. Berks and Wilts, loss by fire £1,221" [1709]; "Ensham brief co. Oxon, loss by fire £1,474" [1709]. Between 1704 and 1714 the collections averaged 1s. 6d., but by 1807 they had become very small. Out of eleven briefs read six produced no response at all, and the rest 3s. 4d. between them. The people probably had enough to do to keep up their own church.

(*To be continued.*)

History of the Parish of Beenham.

By Mary Sharp.

(*Continued from page 53, Vol. 21*).

THE BEENHAM LODGE ESTATE.

But little has been traced of the early history of this freehold property. We know that before the year 1828 it had belonged to the Webb family, but although their records can be traced in the Beenham parish books perhaps further back than any others of its inhabitants, yet unfortunately not much information is to be found as to the nature of their holdings.

The earliest record we have comes from Somerset House, a will of one Richard Webb dated 1585, from which we gather that he was a well-to-do yeoman farmer living in the *Parishe of Benhm in the Countie of Barckes*. In it he directs that his body is to be buried in the Churchyard of Benham, and he leaves xij^d to the *poore man's boxe of the said parishe*, and if that may seem a small sum for a farmer's bequest it must be remembered that money was then at least ten or twelve times its present value; he also gives iijj^d to his Diocesan Church of Sarum. To his (younger) son William and his three daughters he leaves xij^d and iijj^d each, also in

addition *a sheepe, a bullock or a heffer*. He appoints his (eldest) son John his sole executor and residuary legatee, and for overseers William Webbe and George Littlefyld. The latter, in Padworth deeds, styles himself a yeoman, yet he was rich enough, about this time, to be buying up the estates of the lately deceased Lord of the Manor, Peter Cowdray, from his daughter heiresses.

Our next source of information is the return of the Hearth Tax for Beenham in 1663. In this two Webbs are mentioned—John, who may well have been the residuary legatee named in the will, and who lived in a house containing six hearths, a description which would probably apply to the Beenham Lodge of the day, and William Webb (his younger brother), whose smaller fortune only allowed him the comfort of two hearths.

After this date, from 1730 onwards, the Vicar's tithe accounts shew that members of the family continued regularly to pay tithes for their own holding, or living, as it is sometimes expressed. But after 1742 two persons of the name are entered separately as paying for their own land. George Webb, "occupier of Webb's living," paid £7 11s. 4d., and Robert Webb paid £3 10s. Robert Webb, as will presently be related, had then recently become possessed of the estate on Beenham Hill known as Foot Hill Farm.

In 1773 a Mrs. Webb, a widow, paid a fee of 10s. as a mortuary on the death of her husband. This was a gift left by a man to his parish church as recompense for his personal tithes and offerings not duly paid in his lifetime.

It was a Richard Webb with Frances his wife who, in 1828, conveyed to one William Stephen the messuage with its appurtenances known as Beenham Lodge, on the steep hill called Cods hill lying near the western confines of the parish.

The Stephens family had held or rented land in Beenham since about 1786, when they had paid tithes for land belonging to a Mr. Knight. Also in 1811 they were proprietors of some importance in the place and held rights not altogether explained over Beenham Farm, of which it is said in the Enclosure Award that they were joint owners together with Sir William Elford, Thomas Ryder and Samuel Kent, though nevertheless it is stated the property belonged to the Marquis of Downshire.

However that may be, it was to the brothers Stephens that allotments were awarded in the common fields when the award was carried out in 1811. Their share comprised the meadow land lying between Beenham Farm and the Bath Road.

The family then consisted of three brothers, William, Richard and John. It was William who afterwards, in 1828, bought the Lodge estate from Richard Webb.

He died in 1829, leaving three sons, William, John and Charles, as tenants in common of his estates. John took the Beenham Lodge property to his share, and the other two brothers each received £23,881 13s. 4d. Clearly their fortunes could not have been derived entirely from their Beenham property. They belonged, in fact, to a family of Reading bankers. In 1802 one John Stephens is described in a list of Reading voters as Burgess and Banker of Reading, and in later times members of the family continued to pursue that vocation with success.

But to return to the John, son of William, who lived at Beenham Lodge. He died in 1847, and in turn he, too, left his estates divided between three sons, William, Richard and Frederick. In 1858 the brothers conjointly agreed to dispose of the Beenham Lodge estate. They conveyed it to Mr. James Blyth, of Woolhampton Park, who by his will, dated 1865, left all his landed property, including this addition, upon trust for the use of his daughters and their sons in succession, on the condition that every one taking the property should also bear the name of Blyth. In 1906 the whole estate was sold by his son-in-law, Mr. James Pattison Currie, to the South Berks Syndicate, and subsequently Beenham Lodge, with that part of the estate attached to it lying west of Cods hill road, was re-sold in 1907 to Mr. C. E. L. Freeling, the present owner, the rest of the Beenham Lodge estate lying east of the road being bought by the late Mr. Henry Waring, of Beenham House.

Meanwhile the brothers Stephens had also parted with the remainder of their Beenham property, having sold the fields near the Bath Road which they had received by virtue of the Enclosure Award (now known as Gravelpit Farm) to the late Mr. William Strange, of Mile House, Sulhamstead. Beenham Farm, of which they appear to have been part owners, had long before then been purchased by Sir Charles Rich, the Lord of the Manor.

THE FOOT HILL ESTATE.

This property had formed part of the land in Beenham purchased by John Vanden Bempde and settled on his daughter the Dowager Marchioness of Annandale on her second marriage with Col. John Johnstone (see p. 104, Vol. 20). The estate then consisted of a messuage with appurtenances and 58 acres. Some time later it was

sold by her son, John Vanden Bempde Johnson, to Robert Webb, a distant cousin of the family of the same name already living in the parish.

Robert Webb had come from Baughurst in Hampshire, where his family had been settled some time, and where memorials may still be found of them on the tombstones in the chapel yard of the neighbouring village of Tadley, for they had belonged to the little band of Nonconformists who "came out," as it was said, when, on the passing of the Act of Uniformity in 1662, the parish clergy who refused to give their assent to the whole contents of the Prayer Book were ejected from their livings.

At the time when the Webbs first settled at Foot Hill the principal message consisted of a timber building probably not in good repair. This they replaced by a red brick Georgian dwelling house, substantial and comfortable looking, the same which lasted till 1904, when it was unfortunately destroyed by fire.

Robert Webb's name constantly recurs in the Vicar's tithe accounts as paying tithe for his own land, at first in kind, as when Dr. Stackhouse once insisted on taking his tithe of hay after it was ready to carry, not as soon as it was cut, or afterwards in money payment, when, as Robert Webb writes in his day book on Aug. 1st, 1751, "I agreed with Dr. Stackhouse for my tithes till March and from Michaelmas next for three years forward at three pounds ten shillings per year." He had married three times, but survived all his wives. He had, however, made provision for a widow early in his married life, and his arrangement was the rule always followed by his descendants in turn. The widow was to retain the use of two rooms for herself and one for a maidservant in her son's house, also to receive a suitable allowance for so long as she lived or remained unmarried. Robert died in 1788, aged 73. He is buried at Tadley, and on the tombstone is styled Robert Webb of "Benham." His eldest son Elisha succeeded him. He had 15 children, of whom six lie together in their graves at Tadley. He also is buried there, dying in 1810, aged 54. His widow, Judith Webb, who survived him till 1845, is buried in the Chapel yard at Mortimer West, for at that time the family had attached themselves to the recently-built Congregational Chapel there. An interesting celebration was held in the summer of 1898 to commemorate the small beginnings of the services on this spot. The Chapel was built in 1818, and the Webbs from Benham continued to the end to support it.

Another Robert succeeded Elisha, and afterwards a grandson

Richard. This last, like the first Robert, has left some interesting notes. He records the fire at Aldermaston House on Jan. 7th, 1843. "It," he says, "broke out in the lady's bedroom at 5 o'clock in the morning which burnt about half the old mansion. Damage about £4,000." Also on Nov. 9th, 1857, "a fire burnt down the mill at Aldermaston and consumed all."

Richard married as his second wife Annie Elizabeth Tyler. He died in 1866, and his son, also Richard, succeeded to his estate. But times were now no longer so profitable for farming as when the first Robert Webb settled at Beenham, and in 1897 his descendant decided to sell the family property. It was bought by Mr. Alfred Palmer, of Wokefield, the present owner.

Aubrey's Farm is often mentioned in the parish books as a freehold property belonging to a family of that name. It lies a little to the north of the Church and Vicarage and opposite the village green; it is also contiguous to the Vicar's glebe land. It was probably for that reason that Mr. John Bushnell acquired it, and it has ever since belonged to his family.

Many other small freeholds are included in the parish, though the number has much diminished of late; they are mostly single houses or groups of cottages or cottages occupied by their owners. Many of these last were legacies from ante-poor law times, when each village was required to provide housing for its own paupers. There were 14 pauper cottages in Beenham, and when, in 1834, the Poor Law Unions were established these were sold. They had not been well built, nor were they in good repair, and they were bought at low prices either by the cottagers themselves or by small investors who could not afford any further outlay, with the result that they became unfit for human habitation, and in some cases have been condemned and pulled down, to the great improvement of the sanitary conditions of the village.

(To be continued).



A Survey of Wallingford in 1550.

THIS Manuscript, entitled *Supervisio de Wallingford*, is believed to have been acquired by the eminent Judge, Sir William Blackstone, the Commentator on the Laws of England, who was a keen antiquary and who died at Wallingford in 1780. It doubtless came into the market with the effects of the Judge's grandson, Mr. William Seymour Blackstone, about 1850. Its subsequent history is unknown until about 1907 when it was purchased of Messrs. Sotheby by the late Mr. John Mitchell Marshall of Wallingford. It is now in possession of his widow. It contains a contemporary ground plan of the Inner Ward of the Castle, a reproduction of which will appear in the forthcoming volume of the Victoria History of Berkshire.

The Survey is in Latin, and the following is a translation of the introductory passage :—

A Survey of the town and borough made by Roger Amyce, the lord King's Surveyor there, in the second year of the reign of King Edward VI., as of all and singular tenements, cottages, tofts, and curtilages, with gardens and other lands within the town and borough there, as also of all and singular rents annually issuing from the same.

An addition follows in a later hand :—

And examined in the third year of the lady Queen Elizabeth. There is there a chapel called St. Mary Grace at the bridge-foot, which is valued to the late college.

Against many of the tenements a certain value is stated in the left-hand margin, and in the right-hand margin are given the dues payable to the Lord of the Honour of Ewelme, the late Priory of the Holy Trinity, the College of St. Nicholas in the Castle, the Free Chapel of St. John Baptist Hospital, the late Priory of Dorchester, the Monastery of Osney, and the "brig-house" (for the repair and maintenance of the bridge).

It will be sufficient to give a general account of the contents of the Survey, which begins with the north side of the High Street, proceeding from east to west.

Folio 2.

- (1, 2) Richard Greneway esquire, Porter of the castle there, juror of the aforesaid office, holds two tenements lying at the town gate there called the east gate, which are now entirely in ruins ; hence they are one, containing in length 85 feet and in breadth 20 feet. He pays to the lord xij*d*. [The payments are to be understood here as due to the lord when not otherwise specified.]
- (3) John Stampe holds one tenement and one garden adjacent in occupation of Robert Somerby [the name of William Eyle or Erle is substituted for each of these in 1561] lately held by Henry Norton, length 80ft., breadth 23ft. He pays vj*d*.
- (4) xiijs. iiij*d*. Henry Huntley holds one tenement in occupation of John Mathewe, with garden adjacent, 70ft. by 47ft., paying ijs.
- (5) xiijs. Roger Whitley [corrected *Whicheley*, 1561] holds a tenement and garden formerly Robert Hynde's, 66ft. by 56ft., paying vij*d*. obit to the lord and vij*d*. to the Bishop of Winchester.
- (6) viijs. The same Roger holds a tenement formerly Robert Hynde's, now occupied by Robert Paulmer, 83ft. by 49ft., paying ijs.
- (7) viijs. [vs. 1551] Ralph Broke, clerk [rector, as presently appears, of St. Peter's], holds a tenement with garden formerly Sir William Rede's, now occupied by Richard Actone, 75ft. by 15ft. The rent is xij*d*. but by ancient relief ij*d*.
- (8) iijs. Agnes Myres holds a tenement with garden, 75ft. by 12ft. Rent, *nil*.

Folio 3.

- (9) xs. Lady Anne Rede, widow, holds a tenement formerly Alice Dalgate's, in occupation of William Leche, with garden adjacent, 53ft. by 29ft. Rent xij*d*.
- (10) James Blande holds a tenement [*customarium* added, 1561], 90ft. by 38ft., paying vis. viij*d*. to the late Priory.

- (11) *xxs.* Thomas Elmes holds a tenement in occupation of Hugh Clerk, with curtilage adjacent, 68ft. by 34ft. paying to the Bishop of Winchester *vijd.* obit and nothing to the lord. [The dues to the Bishop of Winchester probably indicate a connection with the neighbouring Manor of Brightwell.]
- (12) Susan Goswell, widow, holds [*add* 1561, by charter under seal of the dean granted 17 September 13 Hen. VIII.] a tenement with curtilage and garden adjacent, 115ft. by 42½ft. now in occupation of Richard Kyng [*add* 1561, called Harte Place ; and one close or croft of land lying in the parish of St. Leonard in Wallyngforde aforesaid, and pays yearly at the two annual terms or within one month after any feast under penalty, *vis. viijd.*]. His dues are *viijs.* and a pound of wax to the college of St. Nicholas.
- (13) Thomas Ivery holds a tenement with garden adjacent lately held by Robert Rose, 160ft. by 61ft., paying *ijs. xjd.*
- (14) Henry Denne and Richard Deane [now Thomas Donyngton, 1561] hold a tenement with garden adjacent, 146ft. by 74ft. [called the George, 1561], late Stephen Bereworth's. He pays *xvjd.* to the lord and *xs.* to the College.
- (15) The same holds a tenement with garden adjacent, 50ft. by 50ft., late Stephen Bereworth's, now in occupation of Thomas Donyngton, paying to the Bishop of Winchester *xvd.* per annum and *xs.* to the College.
- (16) William a Deane holds by indenture to himself and his heirs in perpetuity a tenement formerly of the College there and a close lying in Thamys Strete containing ½ rood of pasture with a certain ditch at the Toune. He pays *iijs. vjd.* to the lord and *vs.* to the College [*add* 1561, For he has enquired by R. Pollyngdon, in the book of Thomas Morys dated 15 May, 3 Edw. VI.].
- (17) The same William holds a tenement with garden adjacent, 64ft. by 32ft., late Stephen Bereworth's, now occupied by William Redyng, paying *viijs. xd.* to the lord and *xs.* to the College.

J. E. FIELD.

(To be continued.)

The English Ancestry of George Washington.

By T. Pape.

ALTHOUGH it is now rather more than a quarter-of-a-century ago that the English ancestors of the first President of the United States of America were definitely assured, chiefly owing to the indefatigable researches of Mr. Henry F. Waters, yet many points of interest which concern the Washington family are still undecided. Two of the most interesting puzzles are associated with the County of Buckingham and the adjoining counties, and the purpose of this article is to stimulate interest in their solution.

First of all I will briefly indicate what has been definitely proved.

Sir Isaac Heard in 1791 conjectured that John and Lawrence described in the *Heraldic Visitation of Northamptonshire* [1618] as sons of Lawrence Washington of Sulgrave in that County were the emigrants to Virginia in the latter half of the seventeenth century, and that this John Washington was the great grand-father of President George Washington.

This link in the pedigree was accepted by all as authoritative until 1863, when Isaac J. Greenwood, Esq., of New York, suggested that John and Lawrence, the sons of Lawrence Washington of Sulgrave, were too old to have been the emigrants to Virginia. Then Colonel Chester in 1866 proved quite clearly that John, the son of Lawrence Washington of Sulgrave, was Sir John Washington of Thrapston, who never emigrated, and that Lawrence, who was supposed to have emigrated, was a clergyman of the established church, while Lawrence, of Virginia, simply styled himself "gentleman," a most unlikely thing for him to do, if he were in holy orders.

In 1889 Mr. Henry F. Waters published in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* a most important article entitled "An Examination of the English Ancestry of George Washington, setting forth the evidence to connect him with the Washingtons of Sulgrave and Brington." This was subsequently reprinted but is now unobtainable except second-hand. Mr. Waters definitely proved that John Washington, the emigrant ancestor of the President, was the eldest son of the Rev. Lawrence Washington,

Rector of Purleigh, Essex, from 1633 to 1643, and that this Rev. Lawrence Washington was the fifth son of Lawrence Washington of Sulgrave who was buried at Brington in 1616.

When Colonel Chester broke the link in the pedigree supplied by Sir Isaac Heard various other untrustworthy links were substituted, and even now two broken links are often quoted as genuine.

Albert Welles in 1879 stated that the emigrants to Virginia were Lawrence and John Washington born at Warton, Lancashire, in 1625 and 1627 respectively. Colonel Chester proved that there was no truth in this statement. I have searched the Warton registers and extracted all the Washington entries, and the only children of Leonard Washington [the reputed father of the emigrants] baptised about the period in question are : Robert on Sept. 8th, 1616 ; Jane on Sept. 4th, 1619 ; and Francis on Feb. 4th, 1622. There are no Washington entries whatever for the years 1625 and 1627.

It is quite true that the Washingtons of Sulgrave and Brington are descended from the Washingtons of Warton in the north of Lancashire, but the emigrants to Virginia were not born in Lancashire, Yorkshire, or Northamptonshire.

The other false link is the statement that the emigrant John Washington came from South Cave in Yorkshire. Now the first member of the Washington family mentioned in connection with South Cave was Henry Washington, who by his marriage with Eleanor Harrison in 1689 gained possession of part of the manor.

In South Cave registers are four Washington entries one of which is : " 1694. Susanna, filia Henrici Washington generosus, April 23, sepulta." In 1882, during some alterations in the church vestry, an old black marble tomb stone was discovered. Part of its inscription is : " Here also lyeth the body of Susanna Washington, daughter of Mr. Henry Washington." The stone was placed near the Harrison vault on the floor in the vestry, and the trampling of many feet during the last thirty years has left the inscription only faintly visible. It appears from Henry Washington's will, dated Oct. 6th, 1717, that he had two sons and three daughters, viz., Richard, William, Anne, Mary and Elizabeth ; and in different deeds he is variously described as of Symond's Inn, London, Lincoln's Inn, London, Doncaster, South Cave, and, finally, of *Cookham*, Berkshire. Can any reader give particulars about this local reference ?

Let us now see what is known about the Rev. Lawrence Washington, M.A., sometime Rector of Purleigh, Essex.

His father was Lawrence Washington of Sulgrave, Brington and Wicken, who married on 3rd August, 1588, Margaret the eldest daughter of William Butler of Tighes, Sussex, and he died in December, 1616.

The Rev. Lawrence Washington entered Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1619, matriculated 1621, was elected Fellow of his College 1624, Lecturer 1627 and Proctor of the University 1631. His brothers Sir William and Sir John Washington were frequent visitors at Althorp, the Earl of Spencer's mansion, and in 1623 he accompanied Sir John thither. In 1630, Sir Richard Anderson of Pendley Manor, Tring, Herts, in his will bequeathed "to my cousin Larence Washington of Brasenose, and to Mr. Dagnall of Pembrock College, to each of them forty shillings." In March, 1632-3, he obtained the living of Purleigh in Essex on the presentation of Mrs. Jane Horsemenden and resigned his Fellowship in the latter year, apparently because of his marriage with one Amphilis, whose surname is unknown. At Purleigh he remained Rector until deprived of the benefice under the Commonwealth, 1643, because he was a Royalist. In all probability he became a preacher at Little Braxted in Essex and was buried, January 21st, 1652, at Maldon, Co. Essex, only three miles from Purleigh.

Mr. Waters proved that the Rev. Lawrence Washington had friends and relatives in Buckinghamshire and round Luton and Tring, and in his endeavour to discover the surname of the Rector of Purleigh's bride he made a mistake, quite a pardonable one when all the evidence is taken into consideration, but unfortunately the conjecture has usually been accepted as fact. He assumed that the maiden surname of Amphilis Washington was Roades. His reason for this assumption was on the evidence of a most important will, which Mr. Waters quoted. This is an abstract of it:—

Andrew Knowling of Tring in the County of Hertford 13 January, 1649, proved 29 January, 1649. To the poor of the town of Tring and the upper "Hamblettes" 20 shillings: to the poor of Willsterne within the parish of Tring 20 shillings: to the poor of Wigginton, Herts, 10 shillings. To "Lawrance Washington the younger (my godsonne) All my freehold Landes and Tenem^{tes} whatsoever lying and being within the p[']ish of Tring aforesaid or else where within the Realme of England." To "Amphilis Washington daughter in lawe (and mother of the said Lawrance) the some of Three score poundes of Curr^t mony of England." To "Elizabeth ffitzherbert one other of my daughters in Lawe," £40. To "Wil-

liam Roades my sonne in Lawe," £10. To "the Two daughters of my late daughter in Lawe Susann Billing deceased begotten of her body by her late husband John Billing of Lillington in the County of Buck, Tallowe Chaundler, Tenn poundes apeece." To "John Washington, William Washington, Elizabeth Washington, Margaret Washington and Martha Washington (children of the said Amphilis Washington my daughter in Lawe)" £28 each. To "Susan Emmerton of Tring" widow, 50 shillings. To "W^m. Knowling beau^r maker in old Bridewell Lond' the some of fower pounds to buy him a Ring."

The residue to "Lawrance Washington the young^r my Godsonne whome I make sole and wholle executo^r of this my last Will and Testam^t." John Dagnall of Grove within the parish of Tring, yeoman, John Lake of Willsterne, Gent., William Roades and Elizabeth ffitzherbert to administer "my goodes and Chattles" during the minority of Lawrance Washington, who was about 14 years of age. Witnesses, John ffitzherbert, Thomas Norman, William Dagnalle and James Benning.

In commenting upon this will Mr. Waters wrote "I suppose we may reasonably infer the marriage of Mr. Andrew Knowling with the widowed mother of William Roades, Amphilis Washington, Elizabeth Fitzherbert and Susanna Billing." But that is not altogether reasonable because he assumed—(1) that the mother of William Roades survived the father, (2) that Mr. Andrew Knowling meant "step-daughter" and "step-son" whenever the terms "daughter-in-law" and "son-in-law" were used. The first assumption is certainly wrong. John, the father of William Roades, was the steward of Sir Edmund Verney of Middle Claydon, Bucks, and, according to the "Memoirs of the Verney Family," edited by Margaret M. Verney, he survived his wife Anne Roades by eight years. Therefore Anne Roades was never a widow and consequently could not have had Andrew Knowling for her second husband.

The second assumption may be right, but until the contrary is actually proved it is only fair to give Mr. Andrew Knowling credit for saying what he meant and meaning what he said, especially as in the preamble of his will he informs us that though he is "weake of body" he is "of sound and perfect memory." But as far as I can make the terms agree the situation would work out something like this. If William Roades were a son-in-law of Andrew Knowling he married the latter's daughter, Hannah. If Amphilis Washington,

Elizabeth ffitzherbert and Susann Billing were daughters-in-law of Andrew Knowling they must have married sons, or possibly step-sons, of Andrew Knowling. If Lawrence Washington, Edward ffitzherbert and John Billing, the respective husbands of the ladies just mentioned, were the sons of Andrew Knowling their surnames ought to have been Knowling also. If they were his step-sons then Andrew Knowling had at least four wives, three of whom were widows. Part of Mr. Waters' theory seems more reasonable. Andrew Knowling may have had two wives, by the first of whom he may have had a daughter Hannah. For his second wife he may have married a widow, who by her first husband had three daughters Amphillis, Elizabeth and Susan. Until Mr. Andrew Knowling's matrimonial ventures are elucidated I do not think we shall discover the maiden name of Amphillis Washington.

Mr. Waters searched the registers of Middle Claydon, Bucks, and he found that on 4th April, 1668, John Freeman and Esther Roads of Luton were married. Esther Roads was the daughter of William and Hannah Roads, and John Freeman was the one nominated by Mrs. Elizabeth Fitzherbert in her will 1684 as her executor.

In the same register, 28th September, 1657, occurs the burial entry of William Roads.

In 1634 Andrew Knowling was one of the churchwardens at Tring, and except for the information contained in his will and his burial entry on 21st January, 1649, that is all that is known about him.

I think it would be worth while for an expert in palæography to examine the Tring registers before the one which commences in 1634.

In the latter register the following entries are helpful :—

- 1635. June 23, Lawrence son of Lawrence Washington baptised.
- 1636. August 17, Elizabeth daughter of Mr. Lawrence Washington baptised.
- 1641. — 14, William son of Mr. Lawrence Washington baptised.
- 1649. January 21, Andrew Knowling buried.
- 1654. May 3, Edward Fitzherbert buried.
- 1654. January 19, Mrs. Washington buried.
- 1691. August 17, Mr. John Dagnall of the Grove buried.

Mr. Waters admits that he made a very hasty examination of the early Tring registers which were not in good order. The three baptismal entries are of children of the Rev. Lawrence and Amphillis Washington, and Mrs. Amphillis Washington was buried in 1654.

The marriage entry of the Rev. Lawrence Washington and Amphyllis [?] has not yet been found, nor has the baptismal entry of their eldest son John. The marriage most likely occurred in 1632-3 and the birth of their eldest son in 1633-4.

The Verney family possessed the manor of Pendley, in Tring and Aldbury, for many generations until Sir Francis Verney sold it in 1607 to Sir Richard Anderson. Are there any old registers belonging to Pendley and Aldbury? Their search might be profitable. The following names would all be useful: Washington, Knowling, Billing, Fitzherbert, Dagnall, Roades, Leake, Freeman, Anderson, and Verney.

The Luton registers, county Bedford, have been searched and have materially helped in proving that although the emigrant John Washington went to Virginia in 1659 his brother Lawrence remained somewhere near Luton until 1666 or 1667, when he also emigrated to Virginia.

It would be interesting to know what ladies named Amphyllis occur in and around Buckinghamshire during the first half of the seventeenth century. The name is an unusual one. In the Visitation of Warwickshire it occurs four times, and once in that of Leicestershire. Three of these instances are connected with the Nevill family. Sir Lawrence Washington, grandson of the first grantee of Sulgrave, was lord of the Manor of Westbury in the extreme north of the county of Buckingham, and he had for a neighbour Sir William Washington, the eldest brother of the Rev. Lawrence Washington, at Leckhamstead. The Rev. R. Ussher, Vicar of Westbury, is keenly interested in the Washington pedigree, and I am indebted to him for much of my local information. From his transcript of the Leckhamstead registers I find that Amphyllis Bagley, daughter of Robert, was baptised on January 22nd, 1625. Unfortunately the date is too late for the Washington connection. In the same register there is an account, March 1st, 1624, of the Enclosure of Leckhamstead, Bucks, wherein are mentioned Sir Edward Tyrrell, Lord of the Lordships of Lymes End and Mart End in the parish of Leckhamstead, Dame Elizabeth his wife, Sir Timothy Tyrrell, and Thomas Tyrrell, brothers of Sir Edward, Anthony Greenoway, Esq., Patron of the said Living and Lord of the Manor of Leckhamstead, and Dame Amphyllis his wife. Is anything else known of Dame Amphyllis Greenoway?

The Editor of "Bedfordshire Notes and Queries" a quarter-of-a-century ago wrote to Mr. Waters that fifteen years before that he

had found the name of Washington of frequent occurrence on some register somewhere not far from Luton, but whether Toddington, Chalgrove or Hockliffe he could not say. As far as I know no search has been made for the names.

The Washington entries in the Much Hadham registers, Herts, are known and have been printed.

There are seventeen entries of Washingham names in the Chesham, Bucks, registers, but their connection with the main branches of George Washington's ancestors is unknown.

At Burnham, Bucks, John Washingtonge and Isabel — were married 18 October, 1562.

At Hedgerley, Bucks, Robert Dod and Love Washington were married 10 October, 1568; and John Washington and Philip [?] Weeden were married 30 January, 1590.

There is one other Washington association with the county of Buckingham which is heraldically very interesting. In the church of Marlow is a mural monument to the memory of William Horsepoole and his wife, Mary Washington, daughter of Lawrence Washington of Maidstone, Registrar of the High Court of Chancery. There are five coats of arms on the monument, four small ones at the sides and a large one, which displays only the Horsepoole arms, above. Two of the side ones show Horsepoole impaling Washington. The top one at the right hand side is the one which has the greatest interest, because I believe it supplies the clue to various other coats of arms which show Washington quartered with a coat that has puzzled many enquirers. The one I refer to on the Horsepoole monument shows—Two bars and three mullets in chief for Washington impaling a saltire between four cinquefoils.

It is much too long a story to attempt to unravel this heraldic puzzle in this article. Those of my readers who are interested and have the leisure to follow it up should note what coats of arms the following families had: Mercury, Manning and Lawrence. Coats of arms where Washington is quartered with the following—*Azure*, a cross flory between four cinquefoils *or*—occur at Hengrave Hall, Suffolk, in Maidstone Parish Church, on a stone formerly in Garsdon Manor House, Wilts, on a monument in Garsdon Church [only on the dexter side: the sinister side is *Lewin*], and at Burton Hall near Loughborough [only on the dexter side: the sinister side is *Light*].

The Washington pedigree as substantiated by Mr. Henry F. Waters will then provide the genealogical clues necessary for the elucidation of this most interesting puzzle.

Oxford Ladies' Archæological and Brass Rubbing Society.

YEAR 1914-15.

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MISS SWANN, Walton Manor.

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50 Members, 2 Honorary Members, 11 Candidates waiting for admission.

ON November 12th of this year (1915) the Society "comes of age," it having begun its existence at a meeting in the house of Mr. James Parker on November 12th, 1894. At that meeting eight Members were enrolled. Three of these still belong to the Society, viz., Miss Swann, who was then elected President of the Society and has continued in office ever since, Miss Irene Parker, now Mrs. A. H. Hore, who was Secretary until her marriage, and Mrs. Whitmarsh, now Librarian.

The new Society was named "The Oxford Ladies' Brass Rubbing Society." Its rules were few and simple, and the annual subscription was fixed at 2s. 6d.

During the first year the number of Members increased to twenty-six, and five meetings were held. At all of them Papers were read on subjects connected with Brass Rubbing.

Very soon the applications for membership became so numerous that it was decided to limit the number of Members to 50, but ladies wishing to join the Society should be allowed to do so as Candidates, and should fill up vacancies as they occurred.

In 1904, when the Society had existed for ten years, it was decided that Papers dealing with any other subjects of Archæological interest, besides those on Brass Rubbing, might be read at meetings, and the word "Archæological" was added to the name of the Society.

During the past 21 years the full number of members has always been kept up, and there have invariably been Candidates waiting for admission.

Thanks to the good management of the Treasurers, who were first Mrs. Drinkwater and then Miss Lucy Swann, and also to the very prompt payment of subscriptions by the Members, the finances of the Society, notwithstanding the low subscription of 2s. 6d. per annum, have always been in a most flourishing condition.

The Papers read before the Society have been of great interest, and every meeting has been fully attended. Many well-known Archæologists have most kindly come to lecture to the Society, Viscount Dillon having done so four times.

During this year (1914-1915), notwithstanding altered conditions in every Society owing to the terrible war, the O.L.A.B.R.S. have held their meetings as usual, the only omission having been the annual summer excursion.

Papers have been read by Miss Spencer Thomson on "Mid Europe before the War"; by Mrs. Braithwaite Batty on her late visit to Palestine, and she exhibited many interesting things she had collected there. Miss Poynter gave a paper on "Mid Lent Cakes," when a discussion took place as to the religious symbolical meaning of cakes and other kinds of foods which are used on special festivals.

On March 3rd there was a large attendance of the Society in the Parish Room of St. Giles' to hear a Paper by Professor William Wistar Comfort, Professor of Romance Languages at Cornell University. His subject was "Appeals to Ancestry in Literature." The lecturer dealt with the subject principally by way of quotations from well-known writers, among these being those of such varied opinions as Shakespeare, Dante, Pascal, Emerson, Spencer, Sir Thomas More, Sir Walter Scott, and Stevenson, besides many other authors both ancient and modern.

On May 19th Miss Mee most kindly entertained the Society at Holywell House, when Bodley's Librarian, Mr. Falconer Madan, F.S.A., gave a lecture on "The Bodleian Library." There was a very large attendance, and the lecture, which was full of originality

and keen feeling for the poetry and romance of the subject, was enjoyed to the fullest extent. It was illustrated by a fine collection of lantern slides, some taken from photographs which are unique.

The Society has sustained a great loss this year in the death of Mrs. Iliffe. She had been a member almost from its beginning, and as long as she was able she attended all the meetings most regularly. She had most kindly and ably written the reports of meetings for the local papers, and did all in her power to further the objects of the Society. She will be very sincerely missed and regretted.

Notes and Queries

RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.

THE Editors express the earnest hope that a larger number of Correspondents will avail themselves of these pages, and thus help those responsible for the publication of this Journal to extend its usefulness. There are several Queries—inserted in the Journals for 1914—still remaining unanswered. It is hoped that some readers may solve them.

Notes.

LONGWORTH BELLS.—The following inscriptions appear on these bells:—
 I.—1662. Anthony Maine. Edward Surby, C.W. II.—J. Wells Albourn fecit 1807. J. Paynton and A. Brown, Churchwardens. (Inscription close to mouth of bell). III.—John Hissy, Simon Herbert. Churchwardens. H.B. 1746. IV.—1662. V.—Richard Keene made this ring, 1662.—SIR CLARENDON HYDE.

We should be glad to receive the inscriptions on other bells in the three counties. Mr. Cocks has recorded most, if not all, of those in Buckinghamshire, and several Berkshire bells have been described in this Journal; but there are many which have not been recorded, and much of interest can be gleaned by visits to the belfries of our churches.—P.H.D.

Queries.

CAN any reader inform me of the origin of the term "Papist Way" as applied to the road from Little Stoke Ferry past Moulsoford Asylum—Ord. Map 6in. Scale. When was the name first given and why? Old deeds or the enclosure map might help as to date.—ALFRED A. HARRISON.

CHAMBERLAYNE FAMILY.—In the Public Record Office, London, Exchequer Depositions. 10 Chas. I. Easter 32. Chamberlayne v. Halstead.

" 10. Charles I. 7 April, Depositions of Witnesses taken at Sonnyng, Co. Berks, Before Francis Townely, Esq. [and others].

William Fynmore, the younger, of North Hincksey, gent, aged about 40. Saith that he knoweth the complainant [John Chamberlayne, Gent.] and Mr. Halstead, etc. That the compl't. for divers yeares hath inhabited in the capitall messuage of the farme called Bishopsburne [in the manor of Sonning], and beene farmer of the same and of Eye farme and been reported owner thereof, and that this deponent was present at the sealing of a Deed Pole dated 12 March, 16. James, made from one William Marten of the Universitie of Oxford, gent, unto the Compl't. John Chamberlayne and Elynor his wife, and did subscribe his name as a witness thereto, etc.

Peeter Chamberlayne, of Kingscleere, Co. Southampton, Yeoman, aged about 54, saith he was witness to one Indenture Tripartite dated 20 Feb. : 15. James, made between Sr. Henry Martin, Knight, Doctor of ye law, the Compl't. Jo. Chamberlayne and Elinor his wife; and William Fynmore, Richard Fynmore and Sr. James Lancaster and William Barker, merchant, etc."

Lysons' Hist. of Berkshire, p. 379, states that the manor of Sonning was granted by Charles I. in 1628 to Lawrence Halstead and Abraham Chamberlain; not long afterwards it came into the family of Rich.

Anne Fynmore, widow of William Fynmore, mayor of Reading, 1577 and 1586, whose Will was proved in December, 1603, mentions her daughter, the wife of Thomas Chamberlayne.

The William and Richard Fynmore referred to in the Indenture of 1618 were sons of Anne; and the William Fynmore the younger, only son of the aforesaid William, and grandson of Anne.

I should like to obtain further particulars of the Chamberlayne connection, and shall feel obliged by any clue, however trifling.—R. J. FYNMORE, Sandgate, Kent.



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Vol. 21. No. 4.]

[JANUARY, 1916.

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THE

Berks, Bucks & Oxon

Archæological Journal.



Published in connection with the following Societies :—

The Berkshire Archæological Society
The Newbury District Field Club
The Oxford Architectural & Historical Society
The Oxfordshire Archæological Society
The Oxford University Antiquarian Society
The Ladies' Brass-rubbing Society of Oxford.

THE JOURNAL IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

EDITED BY

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*Rector of Barkham; Fellow of R. Hist. Soc.; Hon. Sec. of
the Berks Archæological Society.*

AND

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PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY CHAS. SLAUGHTER & SON.

London : ELLIQT STOCK, 62, Paternoster Row.

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Fig. 51. Monuments in North Wall





Fig. 52. Monuments in South Wall



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Fig. 53. Monuments under the Nave Arcade



ALDWORTH CHURCH



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Fig. 54. Effigy of Sir Robert de la Beche

ALDWORTH CHURCH



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Fig. 55. Effigy of Sir John de la Beche



ALDWORTH CHURCH



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Fig. 56. Monument of Sir Philip de la Beche



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Fig. 57. Effigy of Sir Philip de la Beche



Fig. 58. Effigies in the South Wall

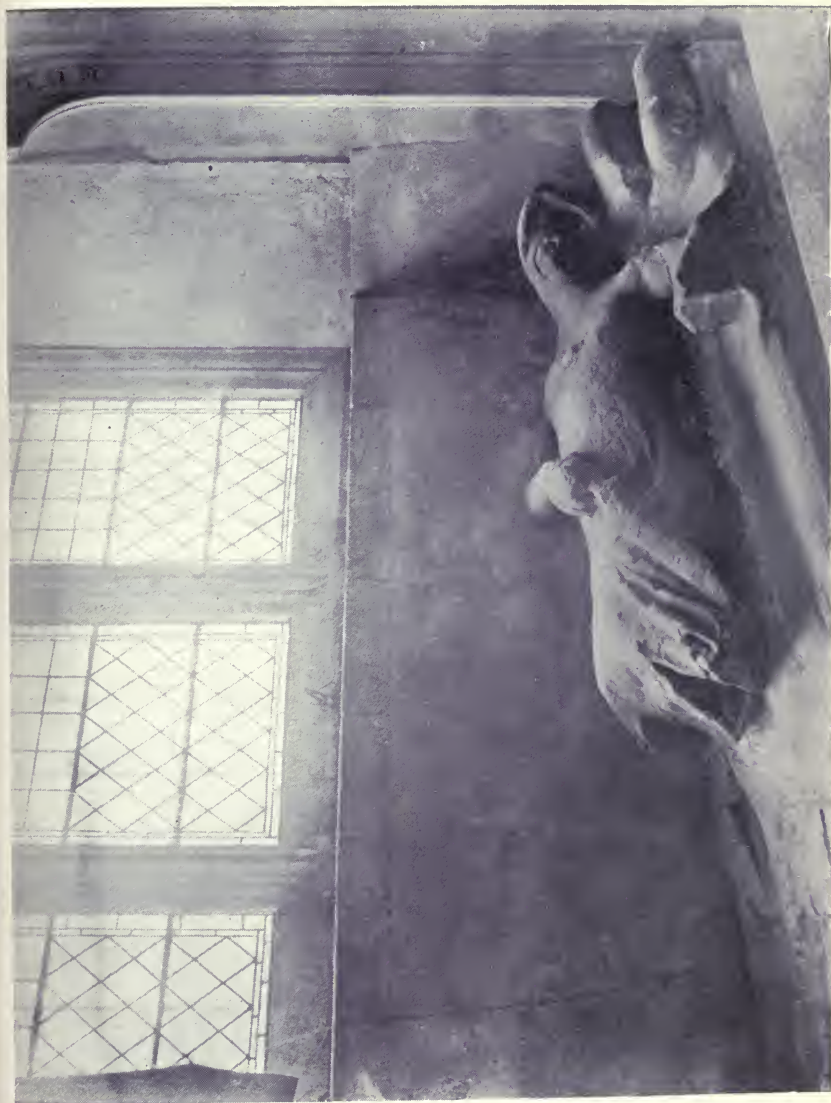


Fig. 59. Effigy of the Second Sir Philip de la Beche

ALDWORTH CHURCH



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Fig. 60. Effigy of Joan de la Zouch



ALDWORTH CHURCH



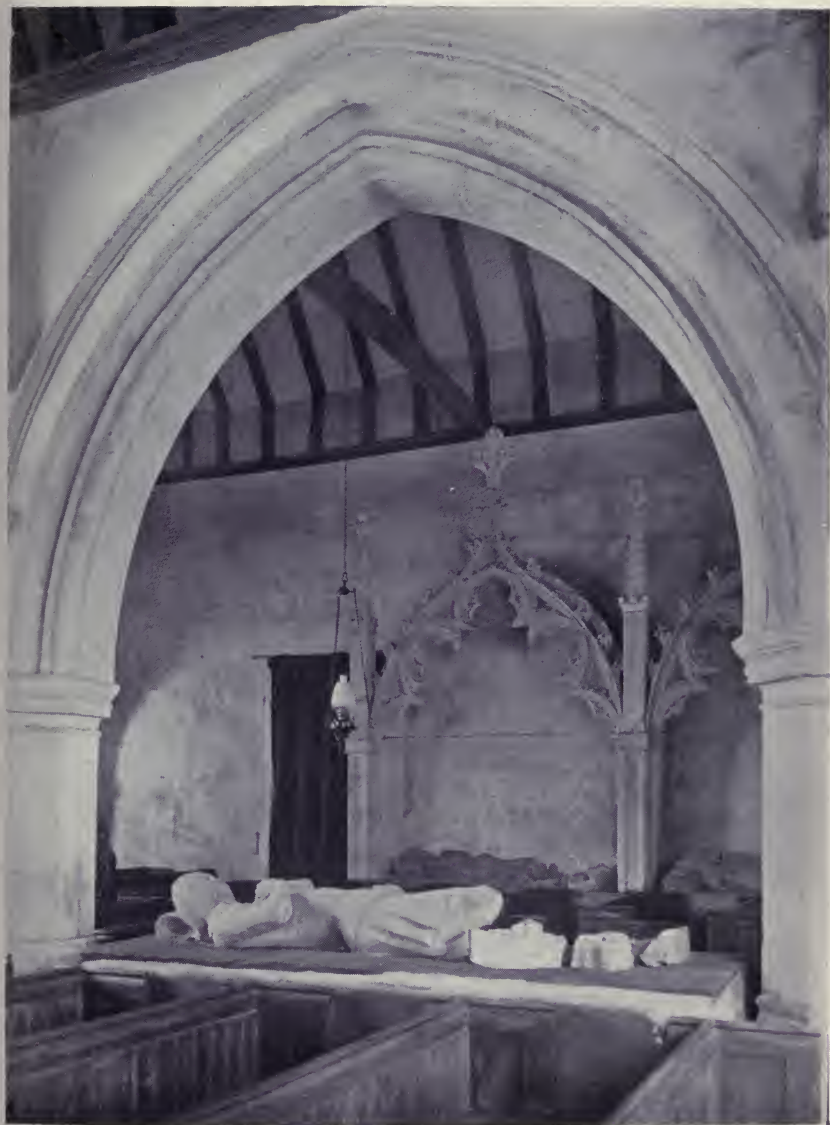
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Fig. 61. Effigy of the Third Sir John de la Beche



Fig. 62. Effigies under Nave Arcade

ALDWORTH CHURCH



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Fig. 63. Effigy of Sir Nicholas de la Beche

ALDWORTH CHURCH.



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading

Fig. 64. Monument of the Second Sir John and
Isabella de la Beche

ALDWORTH CHURCH



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Fig. 65. Effigies of the Second Sir John and Isabella de la Beche



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Fig. 66. View, from above, of Effigies of the Second Sir John and Isabella de la Beche



The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

Notes on the Churches of Frilsham, Wattendon, Ashmolestead, Hampstead Norreys and Aldworth.

By Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read before the Berkshire Archæological Society, March 25th, 1915).

(Continued from page 71.)

Although as has been stated a very full account of the wonderful series of monumental effigies in Aldworth Church has already been written, an essay on the Church could not be complete without a short description of its special objects of interest, and therefore with the help of our illustrations, and a due recognition of what has already been written, we may venture to add our contribution to this most interesting subject.

In composing these supplementary notes I have had before me the diary of Col. R. Symonds, whose notes, taken in 1644, will be set out in full, as an appendix to this paper; Ashmole's History and Antiquities of Berkshire—probably his notes were made about fifty years after the damage done by the Roundheads. It is singular that, although he carefully recorded all monumental memorials in the Churches he visited, he only mentions five of the effigies,

namely, the three on the north, and two in the south wall. Is it possible that some of the figures have been placed in their present situations since his time? Articles in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1760, p. 458, 1798, Part II., pp. 1013 and 1095, 1799, Part I., p. 38, and pp. 274-276, this last being a communication accompanied by numerous sketches, which unfortunately were not printed, by the distinguished architect and archæologist, John Carter; an account of the effigies in Gough's *Sepulchral Monuments of Great Britain*, Vol. II., pp. cvii., cviii., published in 1796—he includes the one on the exterior wall as being there at that time; *The Beauties of England and Wales*, Vol. I., p. 170, published in 1801; The Berkshire volume of Lyson's *Magna Britannia*, where special mention is made of these monuments; *The History and Antiquities of Newbury and its Environs*, published in 1839; sketches by the late Mr. Edward Blore, probably made before 1850; the pamphlet on the De la Beche effigies by Thomas Goodman, published in 1883: the address to the members of the Newbury and District Field Club by the then Vicar, the Rev. R. Lloyd, in 1885: and voluminous notes by Mr. Walter Money, F.S.A., compiled for a new edition of the *History of the Hundred of Compton*; and no doubt several other references can be given. In all the early accounts the magnificent yew tree is specially referred to, and its dimensions are carefully set out by several of the writers. It does not appear to have increased in girth since the measurements taken in 1760.

The series now comprises three effigies of knights under very richly carved canopies (Fig. 51) in the north wall of the nave, three more also under similar canopies (Fig. 52) in the south wall of the south aisle, and two large table tombs (Fig. 53) with effigies under the two eastern arches of the arcade between the nave and the aisle. It has been suggested that the canopies in the aisle are rather later than those in the nave, but with the exception of some new work here it is difficult to detect any difference in the carving. The canopies on the north side (Fig. 54) had suffered less than those on the south, and in the illustration facing page 237 in the *History of Newbury* seem to have been then in excellent condition, only the finial of the eastern arch being wanting. No window is shown at the back of this recess. On the south side much more renovation has taken place. In the illustration facing page 240 of the *History of Newbury* the two western canopies are shown, but the shafts supporting them and the pilasters with pinnacles between and on

either side are wanting, and there is no canopy at all over the eastern figure. Mr. Blore, in his drawing, exactly corroborates this condition of affairs, so that here the renovation is to a certain extent conjectural. The design is very beautiful, with crocketed ogee-headed canopies having a rich cinquefoiled fringe with elegant cusping, and a profusion of small roses on the tracery, and is an admirable example of the workmanship of the late Decorated period of about the date 1350.

The identification of the distinguished personages commemorated by these effigies is, of course, somewhat conjectural. There can, however, be no reasonable doubt that they represent the prominent members of five generations of the De la Beche family, and probably the tablet which was shown to Queen Elizabeth, and unfortunately not replaced, established the identity of the several figures. There can also be little doubt that the series commences at the west end of the north side of the nave, is continued in the south wall of the aisle, and concludes with the two central tombs. Mr. Lloyd has endeavoured to identify each of the figures, and we may fairly accept his conclusions, though we agree with him as to the probability of some of the figures not being in their original position. The western figure on the north side (Fig. 55) is probably Sir Robert De la Beche, who was knighted by Edward I. in 1278. Mr. Lloyd thinks the effigy to be earlier than the canopied recess within which it lies. Here we have the effigy of a knight with flat open helmet, and head on a pillow. He has a leather surcoat, open above the knees, the legs crossed, left over right, and a shield on his left arm. The right arm, sword, lower part of the legs and lion have all been broken away. There is no representation of link mail, but this may have been portrayed in colour.

The middle figure on this side (Fig. 56) is said to commemorate Sir John De la Beche, son of the above-mentioned Sir Robert. He is mentioned in conjunction with his father and his son Philip in several documents. The effigy is a very fine one, 6ft. 4ins. in length, portraying a knight in the complete armour of the period, with head on two pillows, flat bascinet, the upper part cut away, large shield on the left arm, left hand on the pommel of the sword, right hand on breast (the arm gone), legs crossed, the left over right, the left leg gone below the knee, and feet on a very large lion,

These two effigies are said to be of the stone from the quarries at Stanford-in-the Vale, near Faringdon. The eastern figure (Fig. 57)

represents Sir Philip, the eldest son of Sir John, and a man of note, being Sheriff for several years both of Berkshire and Wiltshire. He took an active part in the troublous times of Edward II. and was imprisoned, but was pardoned and had his lands restored to him on the accession of Edward III. in 1327. The effigy (Fig. 58) is one of the finest in England. It portrays a knight raised on his side, with the legs drawn up to enable it to fit into the recess, as it would be, but for this, 7ft. in length. He is in very rich armour, with surcoat open above the knees, open bascinet, legs crossed left over right. The right arm and left fore-arm and the lower part of the legs are broken away. The feet rested against a boy seated cross-legged amidst foliage. The stone probably came from quarries at Milton-under-Wychwood. Mr. Blore has an excellent sketch of this, and of a very similar effigy of a member of the Hautville family at Chew Magna, Somersetshire. J. Carter, in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1799, Part I., p. 275, gives a glowing account of this effigy, and sums up as follows:—"I may observe, the position of this statue is without a parallel in our ancient sculpture; and I may flatter myself that I am not presumptuous when I assert that no Roman or Grecian performance can excel it either in point of excellence of design or execution."

Let us now cross over to the series in the south wall (Fig. 59) and for want of better evidence we must accept Mr. Lloyd's identification, though in one or two instances this seems to be inconclusive and improbable.

The figure under the eastern arch (Fig. 60) bears some resemblance to the great Sir Philip on the north side. He has the open vizor, his head raised on two pillows, but is partly reclining on his side. He has the loose surcoat and the legs have been crossed right over left, but the lower part has been broken away. He is sheathing his sword with the right hand, and part only of the left arm and shield remain. Col. Symonds noted a lion at the feet, now gone. The effigy is in the soft Stanford-in-the-Vale stone. It is ascribed by Mr. Lloyd to Philip, the second son of Philip, who died in 1339. He is recorded to have had the lands at Aldworth, and elsewhere in the neighbourhood, conveyed to him by his brother John for his life, and with his brother Nicholas had the right to crenellate the mansions of the Manors of De la Beche, Beaumys and Watlington, and to empark lands at De la Beche, etc. Under the next arch is a very beautiful figure of a lady (Fig. 61). She is slightly raised and partly inclined to the left. She has the head

supported on two mutilated pillows, held by an angel, also much damaged, on either side. She has the close-fitting wimple, and long flowing robe. Her hands are apart on her bosom. The animal at her feet has been broken away. Carter writes thus: "The form and attitude of this statue is loveliness itself." It is of the same stone as that of the first Sir Philip, and Mr. Lloyd suggests it to be earlier than the recess within which it lies. He assigns it to the wife of the first Philip, and from the evidence furnished by the seal of Isabella De la Beche, unearthed in 1871, on which are the arms of Zouch, claims her to have been a member of that important family.

The western effigy of this series (Fig. 62) is very much damaged. The head is gone, though the pillow remains. The lower part of the legs is also missing, but part of a large lion remains. He has the loose surcoat open above the knees. He is described by Col. Symonds as being without armour, and "his head having bushy curly hair without any other ornament or covering lyes upon a pillow." The stone is of the same character as that of Philip the second. The effigy is assigned to John, second but only surviving son of John the eldest son of Philip the first. He died young, in the lifetime of his mother, leaving three sisters as co-heiresses of this important property.

We now come to the two important table tombs under the two eastern arches of the arcade (Fig. 63). The western one formerly had a series of panelled recesses with crocketed arches on the south side of the monument. There is an octagonal shaft attached to the west side. On the tomb lies a portion of what must have been a very admirably carved effigy (Fig. 64). He has the head with flat bascinet supported on a helmet, hands clasped on breast, rich belt, leather jupon neatly laced at the sides. The legs are gone. Carter observes that "the human figure is here finely represented." Symonds mentions "at each foot a hound sitting on his tale."

This is reputed to represent Sir Nicholas, the third son of the first Sir Philip, and perhaps the most eminent member of the family. He was private tutor to Edward the Black Prince, and filled the important office of Constable of the Tower, though he got into disgrace and was kept in prison for a short time. He had a life interest in the estates in this neighbourhood, obtaining a grant from his nieces after the death of his nephew, John the third. He died in 1348, and was buried at Aldworth. Under the eastern arch are the last remaining effigies (Fig. 65) of this wonderful series. Here is a large table tomb with a shaft attached to each angle, proving

the existence of a former canopy above, and enclosing the figures. There is a bracket on the east respond, and a small recess above the capital, which was no doubt connected with this tomb. On the monument (Fig. 66) lie the recumbent effigies of a knight and his lady. He has his head much mutilated, with remains of bascinet and camail supported on his helmet, and his hands clasped on his breast. He wears a leather jupon laced up at the side, but very carelessly, the lower part being left undone. The bottom of the jupon is kilted, the legs are enclosed in armour, and rest on two dogs with a lion at the feet. It is of the same (Milton) stone as the effigy of Sir Nicholas, and almost a counterpart of it. Both are of later costume than the other figures. Col. Symonds, on the information of Mr. Grace, the Incumbent, calls this figure Sir Nicholas. The effigy of the lady (Fig. 67) is very elegant, though unfortunately the head is gone. "The under dress is close-fitting to the body; the mantle is thrown back; the dress caught up under the left arm; the left hand is on the breast; the right on the folds of the dress; the sleeves have long lappets. There is a hound lying at the feet. It is of the stone of the Vale of Berkshire."

These effigies are said to represent Sir John, the eldest son of the first Sir Philip, and Isabella his wife. He held lands of his father, and was one of the knights of the shire for Berkshire. He had a distinguished but somewhat chequered military career. He was an adherent of the Earl of Lancaster, and was committed to the Tower in 1322, but was released in 1327, and died soon afterwards in his father's lifetime, leaving a widow and two sons and three daughters. The lady Isabella, said to be de Elmridge, survived him and her two sons, and seems to have managed the properties for her daughters. It is suggested that she may have been the builder of the south aisle, and that the canopies may have been constructed at her expense.

There is a good deal of scribbling on the effigies, and the following dates may be noted: (1) on the effigy of John the third, 1511, 1561, 1641, 1706; (2) on that of Lady Isabella, 1626, and of John the second, 1656.

Besides this fine series there were at least two brasses, though not noted by Ashmole, and one more effigy. The brasses represented (1) the demi-figure of an ecclesiastic, and this is supposed to have commemorated Edmund, the youngest son of the first Sir Philip, who, besides being a militant cleric, was Archdeacon of Berkshire, and the last direct male representative of this family. It

is stated that the stone bearing the matrix of this brass is buried under the floor of the south aisle. In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1798, Part II., p. 1095, mention is made of another as follows: "In the middle of the Church, on a gravestone is a plate of brass, engraved with a figure of a man in a gown, and his wife in her usual habit, at their feet this epitaph, 'Of your charite pray for the soules of Richard Pygot, and Allys his wife, on whose soules and all Christian soules Jhesu have mercy.'" This has disappeared, probably in 1844, when a certain amount of so-called restoration took place, involving the disappearance of an ancient candelabrum, and some other objects of architectural interest. It has been suggested that the two large marble slabs on the table tombs under the nave arcade may have the matrices of brasses on their underside, and it would be interesting to ascertain if such is the case. Within the arch in the exterior south wall of the aisle was another effigy under a rich canopy, which was there in 1644, but had been probably destroyed or walled up before 1798, though Gough, in his *Sepulchral Monuments of Great Britain*, mentions it. Symonds describes it as the oldest of all the effigies, and mentions the following tradition, which we find applied elsewhere to monuments in a similar situation:—

"The Comon people call this John Ever Afraid
and say further that he gave his soule to the Devil if
ever he was buried in the Church or Churchyard
so he was buried under the covering
wall under an arch."

In the *History of Newbury, &c.*, p. 232, is the following note:—

"The vulgar tradition is that four Johns were buried here, and they are described as follows:—John Long and John Strong, John Ever-Afraid and John Never-Afraid. They say that John Ever-Afraid was afraid to be buried either in the Church or out, and was consequently buried under the wall, where the arch appears on the outside by the south Church door; we understand that the remains of the figure are bricked up, in consequence of the wet injuring the foundations of this side of the Church."

This might also be investigated, though the chance of finding anything seems to be rather remote.

We cannot close our account of these most interesting monumental memorials without adding our expressions of regret to the

many which have been previously uttered at the scandalous treatment to which these beautiful effigies have been subjected, and which caused the then Incumbent, Mr. Grace, to resign the living. It seems almost inconceivable that such wanton and senseless damage could have been perpetrated on these figures, representative in stone of men who were distinguished in their day, and no doubt benefactors to the Church. They might have claimed consideration as being super-excellent examples of the art of the best period of sculpture in England, instead of being the victims of that fanatical violence carried out under the guise of religious enthusiasm by the Covenanters of the middle of the 17th century. It is indeed a result which makes one long to be able to see our Churches and their contents in the days before the Reformation, the great Civil War, and the tide of undue restoration, which have severally wrought the irrevocable havoc we have to deplore at the present time, when, it is hoped, the beauty of our ecclesiastical structures, and the skill of the architects and those whom they employed are more fully appreciated. The Psalmist must have had the case of Aldworth in his mind when he exclaimed, "But now they break down the carved work thereof at once with axes and hammers."—Psalm lxxiv., v. 6.

APPENDIX.

DIARY OF COL. SYMONDS.

British Museum, Harleian MSS., 965.

R. Symonds Church notes, Co. Oxon, Wigorn, and Berks, 1644.

p. 253. Aldworth, vulgo Alder

Com Bercks.

This is 5 myles from Wallingford

one myle an half from Streatly

5 myles from Inglefeild

9 from Wantage 9 from Abingdon

9 from Reading

In y^e East end of the South yle did hang

a Table fairly written in parchment of

all y^e names of this family of De la Beach,

but the Earl of Leicester rounding with Qu : El :

in progresse tooke it downe to show it

her, & was never brought againe.

King Edw 3^d gave the castle in
 this parish about a qr. of a myle
 from y^e Church northwards to
 Sir Nicholas De la Beach
 for his service done at ye battaile
 of Poictiers in Fraunce,
 who liv'd in this Castle & called it by
 name of Beach Castle. a farm now
 adjoyning to y^e ruins of this Castle
 is called Beach Farm belonging
 to y^e Lord Loudham.

- p. 254. At ye Upp end between ye middle of ye Church
 & the north yle upon a playne Altar Tomb
 lye these 2.

[Here is a sketch of a knight and lady, no
 doubt those under the east arch, assigned to
 the second Sir John and Isabella De la Beche].
 Sir Nicholas
 De la Beach.
 as Mr. Grace the Incumbent
 tells me.

- p. 255. Betweene the Two Pillars that divide
 the Church and south yle upon an Altar
 Tomb just of the same fashion
 as the former lyes the like statue
 of a man in compleat Arm^r not
 crost legd.

At each foot a hound sitting on
 hys tayle whereon a fierce lyon & the
 dogs head looking towards the
 right side.

No indication of any inscription.

- p. 256. The South side of the Church is
 adorned with 3 tall & spacious arches
 of wrought stone & within this wall
 lye 3 portraits of K^{ts} as follow
 [Here is a sketch of the effigy
 of the first Sir Philip].

The people call this statue John Strong.

- p. 257. The middle most lyes with his left leg croost his right. At his feet a lyon
Upon his left arm hangs an 
both hands holding the top of his sword
Under his head are pillowes.

The third and lowest towards the west end lyes with his right hand holding the hilt of his sword his left hand holding an 
At his head are cushions
His left leg over the right.

- p. 258. In the South wall of the South yle of the Church is also 3 arches answerable to the north side wherein are 3 severall statues lying along within the walls 4 foot or thereabouts from the floor.

1. Most to y^e East End lyes the statue of a K^t in Arm^r with a loose coat drawing his sword with his right hand on his left arm hangs an 
a lyon at his feet
Under his head are pillows.
2. The middle one is y^e statue of a woman
3. the lowest is of a man without armour only a long loose coat his hands which were in y^e praying posture are broken off as also the left arm his head having bushy curly hair without any other ornament or covering lyes upon a pillow.

p. 259. On y^e south side of this yle
without side is a low arch within
the wall and even with the ground
lyes y^e Statue of another Knight
which seemed to be older than all
the rest. Upon his breast an
Escutcheon.

The Comon people call this John Ever Afraid
and say further that he gave his soule to the Devil if
ever he was buried in the Church or Churchyard
So he was buried under the covering
wall under an arch.

This is a small Church but looked
very old. 4 or 5 myles from
Pangbourne on the road from P to
Wantage

Nothing in the Windows
neither have any of these old Monts
any thing to discover for whome
they were erected.

There was a very old flat stone in the
South yle whiche had been adorned
with the demy picture of a man & ye
Inscription circumscribed & 1 U
but all gone.

The glasse in the windows is playne &
very old and yet no mention of any coats.

N.B.—Most of the writing is very small and the letters are peculiar
and difficult to decipher, so that it is more than probable that
this attempt at transcription is not entirely successful.

It is worthy of note that the gallant Colonel was himself
not absolutely accurate. Twice, namely, on page 254, line
2, and on page 256, line 1, he makes a mistake between
north and south, the aisle of course being south, and the first
set of effigies being in the north wall. On p. 258, line 1, he
repeated the error, but corrected it by writing "south" over

"north." His sketches of the effigies of the knight and lady and the first Sir Philip are rudely executed, but fairly illustrate the several figures.

In this same volume are notes of monuments, etc., chiefly heraldic, at the Churches of St. Helen's and St. Nicholas, Abingdon, St. Laurence's, St. Mary's and St. Giles', Reading, St. Mary's, St. Leonard's and St. Peter's, Wallingford, Streatley, Cholsey, and Wantage, with a sketch of the brass. Of Reading Abbey he writes: "Much of ye Abbey is still standing, ye old gatehouse at ye ruins on the east side."

William the Templar, Abbot of Reading.

By Jamieson B. Hurry, M.A., M.D.

ABBOT William the Templar was appointed sixth Abbot of Reading in 1164, the year of the hallowing of the Abbey Church by Archbishop Thomas à Becket, in the presence of King Henry II. The completion of this vast edifice, the construction of which had taken forty years, doubtless gave a dignity to the conventual observances at Reading such as had not been possible while building operations were in progress.

This Abbot is supposed to have been of French extraction like his predecessor Hugh de Boves. An old French writer states that he was lame, but that this defect was obscured by his virtues and his learning.*

It would be interesting to know the origin of the title "The Templar." Probably there had been some association with the Order of the Knights Templars which was founded early in the 12th century.

Abbot William held office at Reading until 1173, when he was consecrated 29th Archbishop of Bordeaux,† the ceremony taking

* Histoire Littéraire de la France, Vol. XIV., p. 610.

† Biographical notices of the Archbishops of Bordeaux will be found in Lope's, *L'Eglise Métropolitaine St. André de Bordeaux* (ed. by Callen), Vol. II.; *Gallia Christiana*, Vol. II.

place on Feb. 25th (*Invocavit me Sunday*) at Limoges in the presence of Henry II. Bordeaux at that period belonged to the King of England, who bore the title of Duke of Guienne, the Cathedral of St. André being the metropolitan Church.†

In the early twelfth century many canons regular in the churches of Western Europe adopted the so-called Rule of St. Augustine. Without in any way becoming monks, they took religious vows and lived in communities. Otherwise they remained clerics and had the pastoral care of their respective churches. This new *régime*, at the desire of the Pope and of the King, was introduced in the Metropolitan Church of St. André by Archbishop Geoffrey III. about the year 1140. The change at first aroused violent opposition and led to the excommunication of some of the Canons.§ Eventually, however, peace was restored and the "Rule" adopted. Thus Archbishop William who while at Reading had ruled over a great Abbey in which the ordinances of Cluny were observed, became the head of a Chapter of Augustinian Canons.

In 1174 he consecrated the parochial Church of Saint Eulalie and conveyed the benefice to the Chapter of the Metropolitan Church, the sanction of Pope Alexander III. having been obtained. The deed of conveyance was signed by the dean, three arch-deacons, the sacristan, ten priests, two deacons and two sub-deacons, all of them canons of Bordeaux. This proves that the adoption of the "Rule" had in no way altered the status or dignities of the canons.

Archbishop William, together with two prelates, Arnulf of Lisieux and Hugh of Durham,|| became involved in the great baronial revolt of 1173-4 which was headed by the young King Henry assisted by Louis VII. The result was that within a year of his consecration the Archbishop was arrested by the rebellious King's sons.*

In 1177 Archbishop William was present when Henry II. purchased the County of La Marche.†

In 1179 he took part in the General Lateran Council which was held at Rome during mid-lent by Pope Alexander III., at which 300 Archbishops and Bishops were present. He also consecrated Henry

† The consecration of the new Archbishop took place during a Council at Limoges lasting from February 21-28, which was attended by the King, Queen, Prince Henry, Prince Richard, and many other magnates. Eyton, *Court and Itinerary of King Henry II.*, p. 170 f.

§ Lopès, l.c., Vol. II., p. 202.

|| Norgate, *England under the Angevin Kings*, Vol. II., pp. 136, 140.

* Eyton, l.c., p. 171; *Gallicarum Rerum Scriptores*, Vol. XII., p. 443.

† *Gesta Henrici II. et Ricardi I.* (Benedictus-Rolls Series), Vol. I., p. 197.

de Sulli, Archbishop of Bourges, to which Bordeaux was in some measure subject.

In the following year (1180) King Henry II. kept his Christmas at Le Mans (his birthplace), Archbishop William, many Bishops, Earls and Barons sharing in the festivities.†

† Eyton, *l.c.*, p. 237.

Archbishop William was present at the death-bed of the young King Henry (Rex junior) on June 11, 1183.§ The young Henry, smitten with remorse at the thought of his rebellion, sent an urgent message to his father and begged him "as a last instance of paternal tenderness," to come to see his penitent and dying son. King Henry was deeply touched and anxious to comply, but was persuaded by his friends not to trust his person to the conspirators who were about the dying prince. He therefore took from his finger a ring well known to his son, and sent it to him by the Archbishop as a token of his forgiveness. On receiving the ring the young Henry kissed it and begged the Archbishop to return it to his father.¶ Shortly after he was laid on a heap of ashes, received the sacraments and expired.

Little is known of the Archbishop's literary work, but there is extant a long Latin letter written in 1169 to Pope Alexander asking his support for the Bishop of London in the struggle between the King and the Archbishop of Canterbury.* Some ecclesiastical decisions have also been preserved.†

His death took place on February 25th, but whether the year was 1187 or later is uncertain.‡

§ Chronicles of the Reigns of Stephen, Henry II., and Richard I. (Rolls Series), Vol. I., p. 234.

¶ Lyttleton, *History of King Henry II.* (1773), Vol. VI., p. 181.

* Materials for the History of Thomas à Becket (Rolls Series), Vol. VI., p. 628.

† Gallia Christiana, Vol. II., p. 819; Archives Historiques du Département de la Gironde, Vols. II., VIII., X., XXVII., XXX.

‡ Eyton (*l.c.*) gives Feb. 25th, 1182. Gams (Series Episcoporum Ecclesiæ Catholicæ, p. 52), Sept. 15th, 1187.

SHOTTESBROOKE BELLS.—The following inscriptions are on these bells :—
1 : T. Mears of London Fecit 1811. 2 : Campana Cantare Dno in eclesia, William Foster, 1634. 3 : Campana Cantare Dno in eclesia, Humfrey Turnor, 1634. 4 : Mears & Shinbank, London. Recast A.D. 1904. 5 : Campana Cantare Dno in eclesia de Shottesbrooke, Henry Fowle, 1634.—H. F. ROE.



A Surbey of Wallingford in 1550.

(Continued from page 85, Vol. 21).

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- (18) vij. l. xvjs. viij d. The said William holds a tenement called the Kinges Hedde with garden, orchard and curtilage adjacent, containing by estimation one acre, now occupied by John a Deane [Robert Sparrowe, 1561], paying to the lord ix s. iij d. by the ancient rental, and xs. to the college.
- (19) The aforesaid William a Deane holds a tenement with garden adjacent [near the Courtes lane, 1561], in occupation of John Barker [formerly Jenens, 1561], paying viijs. ix d. to the lord.
- (20) Thomas Herbert holds at will a tenement [Albon' Ruston holds by copy a customary tenement, 1561] now very ruinous for lack of timber and tiles, paying to the Priory vis. viij d.
- (21) xxxiijs. iv d. John a Deane holds a tenement with garden and curtilage, called Brasyers, in occupation of Richard Smith, paying to the lord xiiij d.
- (22) Geoffrey Pollynton holds [xxxs. Ralph Pollington holds freely, 1561] a tenement with garden and curtilage [called Kemsalles, 1561] lately held by Edward Wykeham, now in occupation of William Welles, paying ijs. iv d. to the lord and vs. jd. [freely, 1561] to the Priory.
- (23) John Norres esquire holds by letters patent of the King to himself and his heirs the site, precinct, circuit, etc., of the late Priory there with all lands, demesnes, meadows and pastures pertaining to the same, containing by estimation 280 acres 3½ roods, and pays as tithe to the Priory xxiijs. xd. [freely, 1561].
The same late Prior owes rent to the lord ——— for all tenants of the said Priory there xxxs. iv d. obit.
- (24) Nicholas Aste (or Aston) holds a tenement called Stonehall with small close called Stone close, containing one acre, paying to the Priory xvs.

Folio 4.

- (25) William Stacy holds at will a tenement with garden adjacent, 90ft. by 55jt., paying to the priory vjs. viij*℥*.
- (26) John Purdon holds at will a house called a shepehouse, 30ft. by 28ft., and the bank containing by estimation 3 roods of pasture, paying to the Priory iijs. viij*℥*. [to the last three entries the word *custum'* is added at the end, 1561].

Thus we have a series of twenty-six tenements; and these will be found on examination to correspond with the present number, allowing for the fact that one would sometimes be divided and two or more would sometimes be united. They begin with two which were ruined, held by the porter of the Castle and close to the east gate of the town. These would be the sites now occupied by the "Town Arms" Inn and the adjacent house, between the Castle gate and the approach to the bridge; or the second may have been west of the Castle gate. The last of the twenty-six is also identified by the three roods of pasture called "the banke"; for this is evidently the bank on the north side of the road, continuing the line of the Kinecroft banks, and having on its summit the boundary wall between the Priory grounds and the premises of the "Cross Keys" hostelry: hence the "sheep-house," with a frontage of 30 feet, may be placed in the south-west angle of the Priory grounds. William Stacy's tenement and garden of 90 feet in length intervened between this and Stone Hall, which name is still borne by what is now the westernmost house in the High Street. Next is the Priory site, upon which the Elizabethan house now disputing with the other the name of Stone Hall was afterwards built, very probably by John Norris himself, or by Christopher Avelyn to whom he conveyed the estate in 1553.* Norris had obtained the Priory estate by exchange from the Crown in 1546, after the attainder of Cardinal Wolsey to whom it had been granted after the Dissolution in 1525.† John Purdon, who held the westernmost tenement in the Survey, was tenant of the Priory estate.‡ A tenement in the lower part of the street still retaining the name that it bore in 1561 is "The George." Its name appears in the 17th century as "The George and Dragon."§

* Hedges' *Hist. of Wallingford*, ii. 358.

† Dugdale, *Monasticom*, vi. 1330.

‡ Ibid.

§ Hedges, ii. 130, 174, 175.

The Survey does not indicate the point in a street at which a cross street leads out of it, and thus we are not told here the position of the entrance to Castle Street. But it is not difficult to discover. To the north of the High Street in the eastern portion the Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas was the predominant institution, as was the Priory in the western portion, and Castle Street (which is named later in the Survey) passed between. Then we find that in the eastern portion of the street only one tenement, namely the tenth, pays dues to the late Priory; but from the 12th tenement to the 18th six of the seven pay dues to the college (which had not yet been dissolved), and of the eight tenements in the western part of the street all but two pay dues to the Priory estate. The last of the former six, paying to the College, is "the King's Hedde," which is the fourth tenement from "The George," and has an acre of ground. Thus its position corresponds with what is now the Lamb Hotel, with its ground extending some distance up Castle Street. The King's Head does not appear to be named elsewhere. In 1690 the Lamb was known as "the Bell,"* but in the Survey the Bell is on the opposite side of the street. We may probably infer that when the Bell was removed its name was transferred to the King's Head, which in 1709 had become the Lamb.†

We conclude therefore that the tenement next after the King's Head in the Survey (paying dues to the lord only) is on the west side of Castle Street. It is marked in 1561 as "near the Courtes lane," which would seem to be a by-way either west of it from High Street or north of it from Castle Street.‡ It should be noted that for this and the remaining tenements, except the last two in the street, no measurements of the land are given, perhaps because the Priory estates had not yet been definitely parcelled out. The "Chapel called St. Mary Grace at the Bridge-foot," mentioned in the additional note of 1561 at the commencement of the Survey and frequently named in the records of this period, was evidently a bridge-chapel adjoining the east gate of the town. It was destroyed in the Civil War in or about 1643.§

* Hedges, ii. 410, 414.

† Ibid. 182.

‡ Probably it is represented either by Victoria Court (lately closed) in High Street or by the entry at the back of the first premises in Castle Street, each of which appears to have been a passage leading to the Priory buildings.

§ Hedges, ii. 400.



Sandhurst, Berks.

*By Major G. A. Kempthorne, Royal Army
Medical Corps.*

(Continued from page 78, Vol. 21.)

MILITARY MANŒUVRES.

Before going on to the events of the nineteenth century it may be worth recording that in the year 1792 the first regularly organised military manœuvres took place on our borders, when for three weeks a force of about 7,000 of all arms were encamped on the heath south of Cæsar's Camp.

Revolution was in the air, and the Opposition thought it their business to make a great fuss about the proposed operations. Lord Lauderdale, after declaring that the camp was being formed to overawe the people of the Metropolis and destroy their efforts for a reform, proceeded to make such a violent attack on the Duke of Richmond, who was to command the troops, that the latter sent him a challenge. Political pamphleteers also took the matter up, notably Peter Pindar, who, in his "Lyrical Epistle to Lord Macartney," makes fun of the King, the bravery of the Generals, the mock battles, etc.

The camp for the time became all the rage. The manœuvres were watched daily by an interested crowd, special coaches were run from London, and reports furnished by the newspapers. Both at Astley's and Sadler's Wells Theatres dramatic entertainments with scenes from the camp were provided. The latter announced "An entirely new Musical Sketch, called 'Mar's Holiday,' or 'A Trip to the Camp,' in which is presented through the medium of Recitative, Song, Dance, and Spectacle, a variety of scenes, comic and military, taken from the grand Encampment in the neighbourhood of Bag-

shot." These scenes on further examination prove to be "The setting out and progress of the camp caravan," "A characteristic scene on the outskirts of the Heath," and "A striking and whimsical representation of the Suttling Ground at the Rear of the Lines." The entertainment concluded with a grand panoramic view of the camp and "a military divertisement and finale in which is introduced among other appropriate exercises the New Prussian Manual." Meanwhile at the camp a good deal of hard and useful work was being put in by the troops, including attacks on entrenched positions, night surprises and marches. The Prince of Wales came over from Bagshot Lodge to join his regiment, the 10th Light Dragoons, and entertained his brother officers with two hogsheads of claret and a 250lb. turtle. The King was constantly riding over from Windsor, and on one occasion at least took up his position in Sandhurst village to watch an attack on Edgbarrow, Ambarrow, and Longdown.

At the end of the training there was a most imposing field day. By six o'clock in the morning over 100,000 persons were upon the ground, many of whom had spent the night there. The troops paraded at 8, and soon after the King and Royal Family arrived. After a march past in slow time the sham fight began. A series of redoubts, some of which may still be seen, had been dug in a semi-circle along the crest of a plateau from Wagbullock hill to near Wishmore Star, and these were made the object of the attack. The assailants were, however, repulsed, and fled pursued by two regiments of Light Dragoons. The Duke of Richmond conducted the operations, being attended by two running footmen dressed in white, who conveyed his messages to different parts of the field. The greatest enthusiasm was displayed by the numerous spectators, and the King and Queen constantly expressed their approval.

The "Reading Mercury" says: "To those who approached the royal tents it was a sight truly gratifying. Their Majesties appeared by their gracious manner to relinquish the pomp of State. His Majesty observed in great good humour that the youngest Princesses were so anxious to see the review that they could not sleep all night for fear they should not awaken in time." By noon over 15,000 horsemen, besides a vast number of pedestrians, were present. "Several well-dressed sprightly females," says the "Morning Post," "assumed the shoulder knot place behind the carriages and were thus drawn many miles over the Heath, while many noblemen even condescended to ascend the box behind their own carriages in order the better to view the proceedings."

When the troops moved back to camp for dinner the spectators sought refreshment at the caterers' tents. The food available, however, proved quite inadequate, and soon a free fight ensued. It was a broiling hot day; there was very little water to be got, and this went at 5s. a bucket; beer was soon at the same price for one bottle. Many horses lay in the woods exhausted from thirst and fatigue and unable to move.

After dinner the 11th Light Dragoons gave a display with the light guns which had just been attached to the regiment, proving that they could travel for some distance at a rate of 12 miles an hour. Artillery practice followed, and a wooden redoubt was cannonaded and destroyed by red hot balls. The day's work at length concluded at 6 o'clock with "the grand and tremendous springing of a mine." This gave great satisfaction, the redoubt rising some 40 feet into the air and disappearing in dust and smoke. King George was especially pleased, if we are to believe Peter Pindar, by the colossal figure of a man, made of straw, which was blown out of the hill by the explosion.

So ended the great day, and those of the spectators who were able returned to London, but many were left to spend the night on the Heath till they could be fetched the next day.

CHAPTER VI.

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

During the first fifty years of the nineteenth century no great development of the parish took place.* Mr. Heaviside sold Sandhurst Lodge with the rest of his property to Mr. Gibson, and later a good deal of the land at the western end passed into the hands of Mr. John Walter, becoming part of the Bearwood estate. As already mentioned, the common was all enclosed by the Act of 1813, in which year the ploughmen of the village were busily employed marking off by furrows the new allotments.

The Royal Military College was opened at Sandhurst during the winter of 1812-13. It had been inaugurated by Royal Warrant as a place of education for future officers of the army in 1802, but had previous to that time existed as a school for the improvement of

* The population in 1801 was 222. Carlisle. Top. Dict.

present officers, first at High Wycombe, and afterwards at Great Marlow. The following extract from the "Morning Herald" of August 19th, 1799, refers to its early days :—

" We sometime since announced the establishment of a military college at High Wycombe under the immediate patronage of Field-Marshal the Duke of York, and conducted by the Prussian General Jarry, assisted by Colonel Le Merchant of the 7th Light Dragoons and other officers, etc., of approved ability. The institution, which, comprising the entire of the improved system of modern tactics, is not beneath even the well informed in the former art of war, at present instructs thirty officers, amongst whom is a Lieutenant-Colonel, some Majors, etc., who to their high honour are desirous of being masters of their profession. The establishment to be commensurate with its important objects, is to comprise two hundred gentlemen in actual possession of commissions, two hundred, who when thoroughly qualified, are to receive them without purchase, and three hundred of the sons of private soldiers who are to be made competent to the duties of non-commissioned officers, upon whom the good conduct of an army ever materially depend. The education is provided at the expense of the State, which allows forage to the horses of the pupils and six shillings a week towards the lodging of each ; each gentleman paying the sutler three and eight pence per day for his board, including a pint of wine at dinner, an allowance not to be upon any day exceeded."

The history of the college has been fully written by Colonel Mockler Ferryman. He shows how the original idea of making it to a great extent an institution supported by the State was gradually abandoned ; till in 1832 all grants in aid were withdrawn and the college became self-supporting. The scheme for the education of private soldiers appears not to have been proceeded with.

The original foundation continued at Great Marlow as the Senior Department till 1821, when its fifteen students were transferred to Camberley, and later it developed into the Staff College. Owing to the failure of the contractor building operations were much delayed and it is estimated that by the time Wyatt's building was completed it had cost the Government £350,000. Several regiments were encamped in the neighbourhood to assist in the laying out of the grounds, and among other work they formed the lower lake by digging out the old Blackwater Mill pond.*

Until recent years, except for the hamlet of Owlsmoor, the growth of houses connected with the R.M.C. and Staff College took place on the Frimley side along the coach road, resulting in the formation of Camberley and York Town, while the life of the village was unaffected.

* Mockler Ferryman, "Annals of Sandhurst."

The Rev. J. B. Somers Carwithen, to whose memory there is a tablet in the south chapel, held the perpetual curacy with that of Frimley from 1810 to 1832. He was an authority on church history, author of a history of the Church of England, and delivered a Bampton Lecture on Brahminism. There is a tradition that during his incumbency the parsonage house was haunted by the ghost of a dead child, which used to wail at night in the most fearful manner; and would not cease until the Bishop of Salisbury was prevailed upon to come and lay it.

There are only two references of interest concerning the church in the Dean's Visitation Book during this period.

“1813. Ordered that the small bell lately fallen down be sold and the money appropriated to the repair of the church.

1818. Ordered that the singers be excluded from within the Communion rails. That a place be appointed for them near the font and that the church fence be repaired.”

In 1836 the County of Berks became part of the Oxford diocese, and in 1846 the Dean's peculiar of Sonning ceased to exist.

The heath continued the haunt of the Broom Squire and the gipsy, who, even after the Inclosure, camped undisturbed on the moors to the north of the village. But a change was coming over the face of the country in the fir plantations which began to cover the formerly bare heath.

(To be continued).

GREAT FAWLEY CHURCH.—I wish to add a few particulars to the account of the Church at Great Fawley, Berks, by R. C. Price, in the January, 1915, number of this Journal. Mr. Wroughton's mother, Mrs. Blanch Wroughton, shared with him in building the new Church. The centre arch, the south side of the Church, and the two half pillars built against the west wall, were brought from the old Church. The old pewter communion service is preserved—in a glass case—fastened to the wall near the vestry door. I have been told that the old Norman font was buried beneath the new one in the present Church.—B. C. WROUGHTON.



Proceedings of Societies.

THE BERKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Owing to the war, only one excursion took place during the summer, when, on the 7th September, an excursion was made to Wokingham, Easthampstead, Finchampstead, Barkham and Shinfield. Leaving the Reading Abbey Gate at 1.30, the party drove to Wokingham Town Hall, where they were welcomed by Councillors Sale and Hammond and the Town Clerk (Mr. J. H. Elliston Clifton). Mr. Sale, who received the visitors on behalf of the Mayor (Mr. H. C. Milne), who was in Scotland, said he welcomed them to the ancient borough, in which he was sure they would find many objects of interest. He hoped, he added, that the Society might be able to throw some light on the history of the town, of which most of them, he feared, were scandalously ignorant. The Rev. P. H. Ditchfield thanked Mr. Sale for the welcome he had given them, and also the Town Clerk, for exhibiting the charters, the mace, and other objects of interest belonging to the town. In a lecture he gave some thirty years ago, Mr. Ditchfield proceeded, he thought he was able to show that a very large amount of history clung to that old town. In the charter of Queen Elizabeth, which they would inspect, it was stated: "By all the time whereof no memory of man is to the contrary there hath been enjoyed certain liberties, privileges, customs, as we are credibly informed. One leet have been holden yearly and a Court Baron by our Steward of the Manor of Sonning in the presence of the Alderman of Wokingham." Therefore Wokingham existed under a regular municipal constitution, which Queen Elizabeth by her charter confirmed to her "good and faithful subjects." The "Alderman" corresponded to the Mayor—he was the "Elderman" of Saxon times. It was probably a Celtic or British settlement, and Captain Gregory found in the glebe field a rude earthenware jar and various flint implements. It was not mentioned in Domesday, but was a "pansall of our Manor of Sonning," of which the Bishop of Salisbury was lord. To the latter grants were made, in 1258, of two fairs, to be held at the feasts of St. Barnabas and All Saints. The charter of James I., which remained in force till 1885, referred to that of Queen Elizabeth, and also of "divers others formerly Kings of England." The charter of 1885 gave the Borough a new Corporation, called "The Mayor, Aldermen and Borough of Wokingham." In the time of Charles I. Wokingham seemed to have been a very little place, but Richard Beaver, a loyal gentleman, raised three troops of horse to fight for their Sovereign at Naseby; and to them there was still in the churchyard a curious and interesting monument. Archbishop Laud had some connection with the town—it was said that his parents lived there before migrating to Reading, where he was born. At any rate, that famous ecclesiastic remembered Wokingham in his will, and a Laud's charity for poor maids was still in existence. The staple industry in those days appeared to have been silk growing, and the knitting of silk stockings, and there were still in many cottage gardens ancient mulberry trees. The open and wild state of the country was shown by the

bequests, in 1664, of Richard Palmer, who set apart a charge upon an estate at Eversley for paying the sexton to ring the great bell for half an hour every evening at 8 and every morning at 4 during the winter months, so that strangers happening to lose their way might receive guidance. Mr. Ditchfield then touched on the bull-baiting which is referred to in the book of reminiscences by the late Alderman W. S. Darter, of Reading, and the last of which was held on St. Thomas's Day, 1832, outside the old Rose Hotel (now Mr. Sale's shop). The foundation of Lucas's Hospital in 1663, and the legend of "Molly Mog" having been referred to, the speaker expressed regret at the pulling down of the picturesque old Town Hall, and the erection in its place of the present useful, but not very architectural building, and then called attention to the very large number of pictures—in the Town Hall and Council Chamber,—some of which are valuable, and others good copies, and had been restored after much evil treatment. The gem is the portrait of George I., by Sir Godfrey Kneller. At All Saints' Church the Rev. B. Long (Rector) met the party. The Rev. P. H. Ditchfield said it was a pleasure to find themselves in that beautifully-appointed and well-cared-for house of God, which had been so beautifully restored, thanks to the devotion of the people of Wokingham, in 1864—a time when it was actually proposed to pull it down! That was by no means the earliest Church, as the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle had an interesting passage referring to a monastery there, which an Ealderman named Brorda desired Offa, King of the Mercians, to make free; and a Bull of Pope Constantine, 708, referred to the same monastery. The late Bishop Stubbs sent him a copy of this, and when he asked him whether he thought it referred to Woking or Wokingham, he seemed to think it referred to this place. There were, no doubt, difficulties about it, but he had no time to refer to them now. In ecclesiastical matters Wokingham was subject to the Episcopal Manor of Sonning. It was a chapelry, like Hurst, Sandhurst and Ruscombe, which were all dependencies of Sonning. It was, however, "peculiar," and not subject to Episcopal Visitation until quite recently. The Church was richly furnished, until the Reformation, with vestments and plate. The Commissioners of Edward VI. visited Wokingham, and carried away 162 of the sacred vessels, leaving only one chalice. Among the more interesting monuments was one to Thomas Godwin, Bishop of Bath and Wells, who was born at Wokingham and died in the town of ague in 1590, the inscription being written by his son, Francis Godwin, Bishop of Hereford. Much attention was paid to the beautiful carved oak chancel screen, which is such a feature, erected by his parents to the memory of Mr. Charles Edward Murdoch, who was born May 12th, 1866, and fell asleep June 24th, 1894.

Leaving Wokingham the members of the Society drove to Easthampstead Park, the seat of the Marquis of Downshire, where in the library the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield expressed great regret that Lady Downshire was, unfortunately, ill, or would have personally welcomed them. Mr. E. K. Purnell had kindly come to describe to them the treasures of the house, and especially the books and the MSS., upon which he had been very busy for some time in preparing a report for the Historical Manuscripts Commission. Mr. E. K. Purnell gave an interesting account of the owners of Easthampstead, so many of whom were distinguished in British history, military, naval and political, and then directed attention to the many interesting family portraits in the dining room and library, including fine examples of Romney and Kneller's work; while in the billiard room he had displayed a selection of the more valuable books and documents. The most precious of these is a first edition of Raleigh's "History of the World," presented by the author in 1614 to Mr. W. Trumbull, the first of this

family to own Easthampstead, and bearing the first part of the author's signature, the rest having been somehow torn off. Another precious volume is a Bible printed in Irish characters, and some early Prayer Books. There are also two examples of Wynkyn de Worde, one dated 1517. There is also the impression of the Great Seal affixed to the grant to William Trumbull, of Easthampstead Park in 1628. The present house was built about 50 years ago; the old one, to which many additions were made by Sir William Trumbull at the end of the 17th century, stood by some fine cedars near the stables.

The Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, in the absence of Mr. Keyser, said he wished to express to Lord and Lady Downshire their most grateful thanks for allowing the Society to inspect their house, and to see all the treasures of art and literature therein stored. It was a privilege which their Society greatly prized to visit the ancestral homes of Berkshire; and, after an experience of over a quarter of a century, he could say he had always found how readily and kindly they were welcomed by the owners of such mansions as that. Their thanks were also due to Mr. Purnell for his able address, and for explaining to them the contents of that valuable and magnificent library, which was the most important in Berkshire he supposed, with the exception of the library at Windsor Castle. In that library he liked to recall the memory of the poet, Elijah Fenton, a friend of Pope, who came as tutor to Sir William Trumbull—son of Sir William and Lady Judith—and remained on as librarian, dying of "indolence and inactivity," as Pope wrote in his "Letters." It was Sir William Trumbull who suggested to Pope, who then lived at Binfield, that he should translate Homer's works—so that one of the best known pieces of English literature owed its birth to an ancestor of the present owner of Easthampstead. Passing the earthwork known as Cæsar's Camp, the visitors proceeded along the Nine Mile Ride to Finchampstead Church, where the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield said that Sir John Oldrid Scott placed the origin of the church as early as the Conquest, or perhaps earlier. The Rev. gentleman gave an interesting sketch of its chief characteristics.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Hautenville Cope invited the party to spend a short time in inspecting their house (Finchampstead Place), full of interesting prints, etc., and a charming old-world garden. They then moved on to Barkham Church.

The Rev. P. H. Ditchfield here explained that the present church was modern, having been built in 1862. He much regretted the disappearance of the old church. A picture of it was in existence, and was reproduced in one of his (Mr. Ditchfield's) books; it had a timber tower, like several other churches in the Forest. Thanks to the kindness of Mrs. Tyndale Heelas, of Wokingham, he had recovered the door of the old church, which is now placed in the porch, having been for some time in that lady's garden. Many distinguished families had been connected with Barkham, or owned the Manor—of some of whom he gave brief particulars. At Barkham Rectory the Hon. Secretary and Mrs. Ditchfield hospitably entertained the members to tea, and were duly thanked for their kindness. The day's programme concluded with a visit to Shinfield Church, but the failing light precluded any serious inspection of the edifice. The Vicar's Warden (Mr. Henry Goddard, C.C.) welcomed the visitors in the absence of the Rev. H. Ll. Rice, the vicar.

The first meeting of the Winter session of the Berks Archæological Society was held on November 29th at the Abbey Gate, when a lecture was given by Mr. Mervyn Macartney, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., on "The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, London." The Hon. Secretary received a letter from Mr. E. Ravenscroft, the Treasurer, resigning his position. Mr. Ravenscroft explained that he

was now away from Reading practically all the week. His partner, Mr. W. R. Morris, would, if the Society wished, carry on the work till the next annual meeting. He wished to express his personal thanks to all the members, at whose hands he had always received the utmost courtesy. Mr. Ditchfield said they all very much regretted the resignation of their Treasurer, who had served them so loyally and well ever since his father left Reading. He had rendered the Society great assistance. He was glad to say that Mr. J. Hautenville Cope was willing to act as Treasurer. He was sure that Mr. Cope would do the work extremely well. He was a very keen antiquary and was eager to promote the success of the Society in every possible way. Probably it would be necessary to ask Mr. Morris to transact some of the duties which must be performed by someone on the spot. Mr. Cope had been appointed by the Committee till the next regular period of election.

Mr. Keyser asked the Secretary to convey to Mr. Ravenscroft their regret at his retirement and their best wishes in the work he had undertaken. Mr. Keyser referred to the great trouble Mr. Ravenscroft took in reference to the two-day excursions, and how much he helped to make those excursions enjoyable. The Rev. P. H. Ditchfield seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

In introducing the Lecturer, Mr. Keyser said they were fortunate in securing Mr. Macartney, whose previous lectures would be remembered. Mr. Macartney was the surveyor of St. Paul's for the Dean and Chapter, and no one was so well acquainted with the noble building as he was.

The Lecturer said that St. Paul's had often been compared with St. Peter's, rather to the detriment of the smaller Cathedral. But in some ways St. Paul's had the advantage. It was built by one architect, while St. Peter's had seven; it was completed in 35 years, whereas St. Peter's took 200. St. Paul's was not so large by a great deal as St. Peter's, but its position and proportions were in its favour. Mr. Macartney, in an interesting way, described the earlier churches which stood on the site—the first St. Paul's was commenced in 1087—and mentioned that some lands in Essex had been in the possession of the authorities for 1,300 years. He mentioned how, just prior to Laud's time, greengrocers and others plied their trade at the church, and how in the time of the Commonwealth it was used as a barracks. At the time of the restoration the place was in a most deplorable condition. In 1661 Wren was asked to make plans for the alterations and restoration of the church; at that time he was only Deputy Surveyor-General. The Lecturer gave very full details of the progress of the preliminaries and the effect on the scheme of the Great Fire of London, and said that in 1672 Wren's plans were ready. Then the advanced clerics objected: they said that the choir was not satisfactory. The foundation stone was laid on June 21, 1675, by Thomas Strong, the ancestor of a lady in that room (Miss Strong, of Oxford Road, Reading). Mr. Macartney spoke of the part of the church which Thomas Strong built, and which included the greater part of the dome. No fewer than eight different contractors had a share in the work. Thomas Strong was the principal man, and when he died three years or so after he started the work, he handed it on to his brother Edward and the latter's son Edward, who did nearly the whole of the work on the north side and also the dome and the lantern. The Strong's were the owners of some quarries at Burford and Teynton, and Teynton stone was used in large quantities inside the Cathedral. Inigo Jones had used a great deal of Portland stone. Some of the best of the carving was done by a man named Mayne, while Gibbons did a great deal of the sculpture and the carving. The woodwork was supplied by Hopson,

an ancestor of Hopson, of Newbury. Wren was an extraordinarily gifted man. His father was Dean of Windsor and in charge of the insignia belonging to the Star and Garter. When the Commonwealth came into existence he buried the insignia, and for a long time after the Cromwellian forces got into Windsor they hunted for it in vain. At last they found it, he believed, under the altar of the Chapel. A cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Macartney, which was unanimously carried, was proposed by the Rev. H. Cooper-Smith.

Notes and Queries

RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.

THE Editors express the earnest hope that a larger number of Correspondents will avail themselves of these pages, and thus help those responsible for the publication of this Journal to extend its usefulness. There are several Queries—inserted in the Journals for 1915—still remaining unanswered. It is hoped that some readers may solve them.

Notes.

MODEL OF THE WEST FRIEZE OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—When my husband, the Rev. John Climenson, restored Shiplake Church under Mr. Street's guidance, in 1869-70, on the tower wall was a model of the centre upper compartment of the western front of St. Paul's Cathedral. Of this, Mr. Howman, 50 years Vicar of Shiplake, from 1799 to 1849, in his notebook of a previous restoration of Shiplake Church in 1822, says: "There is every reason to believe that it is an original one, not only from the exquisite perfection of its execution, but from the circumstances of its having been brought from Badgemore House, near Henley-on-Thames, where Mr. Richard Jennings, the master builder of St. Paul's, resided. When the family of Grote quitted Badgemore it was purchased from that house by Mr. J. Plumbe, of Henley, who set it up as a front to a summer house in his garden. Here it remained for two years, but in 1833 was given by Mr. Plumbe to Rev. A. E. Howman, the Vicar of Shiplake. The alto relievo is composed of terra cotta; the rest is wood, which was fortunately preserved during its exposure at Henley by having been painted so coarsely that the flutings of the columns could scarcely be perceived. Their interior had entirely perished, but the decaying wood being removed and the hollows filled in with plaister of Paris, and then the outside paint being removed the work was restored to its original beauty." The representation in the frieze is the conversion of St. Paul. Mr. Richard Jennings, son of Nicholas Jennings and his wife (née Priscilla Salter, of Pangbourne), was master builder of St. Paul's Cathedral under Sir Christopher Wren. He built Badgemore, near

Henley, it is said, of the bricks and scaffolding of St. Paul's, brought to Henley by barges. The exterior of St. Paul's was finished in 1710. After Richard Jennings' death in 1718 Badgemore passed through several hands till a Mr. Adams left it to his nephew, Joseph Grote, uncle of the historian, who eventually inherited Badgemore and sold it in 1831, and presumably the model was included in the purchase. In 1870 the Vicar, the Rev. John Climenson, and the Churchwardens, deeming this model would be more properly placed in St. Paul's Cathedral, offered it to the Dean and Canons. They accepted it and sent £10 to the Restoration Fund of Shiplake Church. It is now in the Library of the Cathedral.—From my "History of Shiplake Church," EMILY J. CLIMENSON.

LAUD KINSHIP.—Archbishop Laud, by his will dated 1643, provided for the apprenticing of twelve boys at £10 each, ten natives of Reading, one Wokingham, and one Bray. This is to be done for two years, and every third year the £120 is to be given to six poor maids in marriage portions of £20 each (they must have lived three years in one place), five natives of Reading and one of Wokingham. On the 16th April, 1645, Elizabeth Fynmore, servant to Sam Johnson, claimed under the will; and 7th October, 1653, Margaret Fynmore, maidservant, claimed under Laud's will for the gift for preferment in marriage for the town of Reading. Later, Anne and Mabel Bigg, daughters of Richard Bigg, of Reading, cordwainer, of kin to Laud, were elected for the "six poor maids"; Sarah Mayott, maidservant, elected 1680 as of kin, and Mary Mayott, Jane Smith and Elizabeth Bowland, maids, said to have been of kin to Laud. In 1737 a resolution was passed that no person in future to be taken to be of kin to Archbishop Laud unless he or she produces a satisfactory pedigree. Doubtless claims became so numerous, and the kinship so remote, that this determination was necessary. It apparently is not recorded of the first two above applicants that they claimed to be of kin; I suppose that it is inferred. I should like to ascertain in what way they were connected with Laud's family. Anne Fynmore, of Reading, in her will, 1603, mentions her daughter who married — Webbe, who may have been related to the Archbishop's mother. Is it known who was Laud's grandmother, the wife of John Webbe, clothier, of Reading? —R. J. FYNMORE.

Queries.

JOHN HARRISON, of Beech Hill, Berks, son of Richard Harrison, of Finchampstead. Matriculated St. Mary's Hall, Oxford, 1603. Admitted to Lincoln's Inn, 1606; Bar, 1613: Lent Reader, 1633; Double Reader and Treasurer of that Society, 1649. A friend of Elias Ashmole. Was 79 years of age, 1665. Married twice—firstly, Elizabeth, daughter of George Carleton, of Huntercombe, Oxon; secondly, Dorothy, daughter of Sir Edward Clarke, Knt., of Ardington, Berks.

EDWIN GRIFFIN, Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn, 1698, son of Edwin Griffin, of New Windsor, Berks. Married Annie Goldesborough, of Harmondsworth, Middlesex. They had a son, Edwin Griffin, also of Lincoln's Inn and Harmondsworth. The will of the latter is at Somerset House (178 Edmunds), but the Treasurer's will cannot be found there. These arms of Griffin in east window, Lincoln's Inn Chapel, *arg. a griffin segreant sa.* Any information with regard to legal career, family and death of the above lawyers will be much appreciated. —M. S. THORPE, 49, Kitchener Road, East Finchley, N.



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